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Vaisakha 2, 1897 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Thirteenth Session
(Fifth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, April 22, 1975/Vaisakha 2, 1897 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Trains cancelled due to shortage of Power in Sealdah Division during the last six months.

+

*732. SHRI TUNA ORAON :
SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR :

Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and particulars of trains cancelled in Sealdah Division due to shortage of power during the last six months; and

(b) the action taken for smooth running of trains in this Division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No trains were cancelled in Sealdah Division during last six months due to restriction on electricity consumption. However 305 trains were cancelled due to load shedding and power failures etc.

(b) To ensure continuous and secure power supply for electric traction loads on a long-term basis, the Ministry of Railways have decided, in consultation with the Planning Commission, to set up Railways' own power stations which will run inter-connected with the State Grids. One of the power stations is proposed to be set up in West Bengal, which when completed, will help in smooth running of trains on the electrified sections.

SHRI MUHAMMED KHUDA BUKHSH: Will the hon. Minister tell us when the power stations are proposed to be set up?

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: The matter is under examination by the Planning Commission.

Projects of Oil Exploration in West Bengal

*733. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) details about the projects of oil exploration under operation in West Bengal; and

(b) the progress so far made thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Seismic surveys have been conducted by the ONGC in districts of West Dinajpur, Maldah, Burdwan, Nadiah, Howrah, 24-Parganas, Midnapur and Bankura of West Bengal. Exploratory work done so far, including drilling of a number of exploratory wells, in West Bengal has not led to the discovery of deposits of oil/gas of commercial significance. On the basis of further work done, ONGC has released for drilling three more locations, one at Bakultala and two at Galsi. Drilling at Bakultala structure is expected to be commenced during this year.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: May I know (a) whether the seismic survey in the Bakultala area of 24 Parganas has revealed a similar reflection as in Gujarat, which shows that there is a possibility of a similar structure of oil in the Bakultala area and if so, what are the results of that survey; (b) whether drilling works were started in Jaguli-Haringhata, Berachampa, Guskara, Bat-Krishnapur and Galsi areas but they have been abandoned; and (c) whether the reason for abandoning the drilling in these areas and in Bodra was that proper drilling and rigging instruments were not available?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Sir, many questions have been put. If he puts them one by one, I can answer them. The nature of seismic reflections in the Bakultala area have encouraged us to pinpoint areas where we are going to start drilling by the end of this year.

The difficulty is, the previous analogue system of seismic investigation is now being replaced by the digital system which gives us the opportunity to eliminate errors. By elimination of errors we have found that Bakultala will be a more attractive area for drilling. As soon as the drill arrives, we will start the drilling.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I mentioned some places—Jaguli-Haringhata, Berachampa Guskara, Bat-Krishnapur, Galsi and Bodra. In all these areas, some preliminary works for drilling were started. I want to know whether they have been given up because of want of sufficient rigging instruments or for other reasons.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The areas where drilling was taken up about 10 or 14 years ago under the Stanvac project were given up because we do not think they are encouraging places. Our knowledge today does not encourage us to go on spending money on drilling in an infructuous manner. Under the new system of seismic investigation, we have pinpointed Bakultala and one or two more areas. As soon as we find some encouraging places, we shall certainly go on.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: In this House, we were told that because we have not instruments to drill beyond 10,000 feet, Bodra and other areas were given up. But you have now said that there were no encouraging signs at these places. That was a different question. I seek clarification. I want to know whether certain photographs of the under-sea structure along the coastal belt of Bengal have been taken and they have also been encouraging; and whether any steps have been taken for off-shore drilling in regard to exploration of oil in the coast of West Bengal. If so, I want to know the nature of the steps taken and whether there is any time-schedule.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The hon. Member is perhaps a little confused between two aspects—which I want to make clear. There are certain areas in on-shore, where deep drilling rigs are required. (*Interruption*)

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I am not confused. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Professor, you are taking a lot of time, as if the whole Question Hour is for you.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: So far as off-shore areas are concerned, they are quite distinct from on-shore areas where some encouraging structures have been found. But as soon as the total interpretation of those areas arrives, they will try to find, to spot out the areas where they will perhaps start drilling in the off-shore. So far as on-shore areas are concerned, Bakultala is one area where they are going to do it. More than that, there may be areas which are quite deep where we have just not decided to drill.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Sir, the other day, the hon. Minister had appeared in the television and given the impression that we are going to be very soon self-sufficient as far as oil is concerned. I would like to take the case of West Bengal, Bihar, Meghalaya and Gujarat. May I know the comprehensive system (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: I do not like this

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Off-shore, on-shore, I wanted to know about West Bengal, Bombay High etc because he gave the impression (*Interruption*).

MR. SPEAKER: This is not relevant to the main question.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: If you are the Minister to answer, you will be very happy.

MR. SPEAKER: No; I am not going to ask him to answer. Please it must have some relevance. Don't do it every day (*Interruption*).

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Reports have appeared in the Press that contiguous to West Bengal, in Orissa, oil has been located. If so, can the Minister give some idea about this? (*Interruption*)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing? Kindly sit down please. When the Minister has been asked to supply a specific reply to a specific question, you cannot add to it on your own. No, please. No relevance at all. I am really very

surprised. Why don't you put separate questions on our own and not intrude into others' questions? Why don't you put your own questions?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: There is an encouraging report from Qalsi and Goalpara areas. Both of these areas are within my constituency. I want to know as to how far you have examined those areas and what is the detailed report in regard to those areas on the effort to find gas. What is the latest detailed information? I want to know this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Whether we shall find gas in that area, i.e. Galsi and Goalpara —certainly the Galsi area has given some encouragement. Therefore, we propose to put in a drill there at the appropriate time, as soon as we can.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I want to know when drilling is expected to begin in the Bakultala region. That is number one. Number two: in his original reply, if I have heard him aright, the Minister had said that exploratory wells have been dug at several places May I know from him, Sir, whether the expense and trouble of digging exploratory wells are undertaken, unless the preliminary seismic survey is hopeful and indicative? Obviously, I take it that the seismic survey is hopeful; then only exploratory wells are dug. May I know from him as to where are these locations where these several exploratory wells were dug; and why was it that the seismic survey which had led them to do this, is now said to have . . . he says it has not led to any result, has not produced any result?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Under the previous agreement with the Government of India, the Indo-Stanvac project, which was a joint project, undertook the drilling of ten holes after through seismic investigation and none of them was found to have either oil or gas of any commercial quantity.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The only place where well was dug was at Bodra.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am coming to Bodra. I was referring to the drills which were made. You asked me where the drills were made. I am answering that question. Ten years back, after thorough seismic work, ten drills were dug but no oil or gas was found, except in one or two places where some traces were found. At Bodra a well was attempted by the ONGC. Its estimated depth was 5,000 metres. We could not go beyond 4,200 metres because of drilling trouble. So, we had to give up the well, not because we did not get any seismic reflections.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Oil is there.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: May be oil or gas, in commercial or non-commercial quantities is available. I do not deny that. It was stopped because we did not have deep rigging equipment at that time; they could not go beyond 4,200 metres whereas the depth we wanted was 5,000 metres. Now we feel that Bakultala is an encouraging place, after thorough checking and re-checking. Therefore, we propose to put up a hole there.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question, Shri S. N. SINGH DEO—absent. Next question, Shrimati Bhargavi Thankappan—absent. Next question, Shri P. R. Shenoy —absent.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: A very important question is lost. Some members give notice of questions and they do not come here when the questions are due. In that process some questions are lost. What is the remedy?

SHRI R. S PANDEY: Cut their Rs. 51.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I suggest that if we give intimation in advance saying that we are interested in a particular question, in case the member happens to be absent, we may be permitted to ask questions. Many a time actually these questions are asked through some members by others and they deliberately remain absent. That is also possible. So, we should not leave it to them.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: It should be discussed in the Rules Committee.

MR. SPEAKER: We have already devised a procedure. If the list is completed, then there will be a second round.

रेलवे स्टेशनों पर बुक स्टालों में एकाधिकार की प्रवृत्ति को समाप्त करने के लिये प्रस्ताव

*737. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) इस समय देश में रेलवे विभाग के विभिन्न जंक्शनों में बुक स्टालों की संख्या कितनी है और उनमें से कितने अशिक्षित बेरोजगारों अथवा सहकारी संगठनों के पास हैं ,

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार बुक स्टालों में एकाधिकार की प्रवृत्ति समाप्त करने का है , और

(ग) यदि हां तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI). (a) There are 744 bookstalls on the entire Indian Railways Of this 19 bookstalls are at present held by unemployed graduates and by cooperatives/partnerships of unemployed graduates

(b) No monopoly right is enjoyed by any firm or any individual at present

(c) Does not arise

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : रेलवे बजट पर जब जब यहां चर्चायें होती हैं और इस साल भी हुई हैं तब तब सभी सदस्यों की ओर से, सभी दलों की ओर से यह मांग की गई है कि व्हीलर वगैरह का जो एकाधिकार बुकस्टालों पर है उसको समाप्त किया जाए । पिछले रेल मन्त्री श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र ने भी सदन को आश्वासन दिया था और इस बार रेल मन्त्री ने भी जो भाषण दिया उस में उन्होंने इस बात पर प्रकाश डाला था । जिस तरह से आप सिलिंग आदि लागू कर रहे हैं जमीन पर, उद्योगों पर, उसी तरह से बुक स्टालों के सम्बन्ध में भी आप कोई नीति बनाएंगे कि एक व्यक्ति के अधिकार में एक या दो या चार से अधिक बुकस्टाल न रहें ? इस बात को मद्देनजर रखते हुए व्हीलर या दूसरी ऐसी जो भी संस्थायें हैं और जिन के पास बहुत अधिक बुक स्टाल हैं उन का एकाधिकार आप कब तक समाप्त करने जा रहे हैं ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : ऐसी कोई बात नहीं है कि उनको परमानेंट अधिकार दिया गया है बुक स्टाल चलाने का । जब भी यह बात हमारे नोटिस में आएगी कि उनका काम तसल्लीबख्श तरीके से नहीं हो रहा है उस वक्त उनका कांट्रेक्ट खत्म किया जा सकता है । कुछ बुक स्टाल उन्होंने सरेंडर किए भी हैं और उनको हमने अनएम्प्लाइड ग्रेजुएट्स को देने की कोशिश की है ।

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : अध्यक्ष जी, जैसे सरकार ने कैटरिंग आदि की व्यवस्था बहुत जगह अपने हाथ ले ली है मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्यों नहीं सरकार उन बुक स्टालों को अपने हाथ में लेकर चलाने पर विचार करती है ?

मैं जान-बूझकर यह सवाल इसलिये पूछ रहा हूं कि बुक स्टालों पर जिस तरह का साहित्य रहता है, उसको देखने से पता चलता है कि उनका स्टैंडर्ड क्या है ? कभी-कभी तो जासूसी पंजा, खूनी पंजा, मनोहर कहानियां इत्यादि ही वहां पर रहती हैं । अच्छा साहित्य नहीं रखा जाता है । मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि उन बुक स्टालों पर अच्छा साहित्य रहे, इसके लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ? और क्या सरकार का ऐसा विचार है कि

जिस तरह से कैंटीरंग वगैरा सरकार स्वयं चला रही है, वैसे ही बुक-स्टालों को भी स्वयं चलाये ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : बुक स्टालों को सरकार अपने तौर पर चलाये, इस तरह का विचार नही है । न ही इससे कोई लाभ होगा ।

जहा तक किताबों का तालुक है, हमारी तरफ से स्टेशनों पर और प्लेटफार्मों पर जो कमेटी बनी हुई है, वह इस बात की पूरी जांच करती है कि पढ़ने के लिये वहीं किताबे मार्केट में आये जिनमे तहजीब के और इखलाक के खिलाफ बाते दर्ज न हो । लेकिन बदकिस्मती से जो खूनी पंजा या इस किस्म की किताबें आ जाती है उनकी जांच की जा रही है, लेकिन बहुत कुछ डिपेंड करता है इस बात पर कि पढने वाले का शौक क्या है ?

श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : आपकी इजाजत से, अध्यक्ष जी, मै एक सवाल यह पूछना चाहता हू । आप जानते है, खुद भी देखते है कि उन बुक स्टालों पर इस तरह की किताबें रहती है । क्या इस तरह के अपराध पर अभी तक किसी बुक-स्टाल का करार रद्द कर किया गया है ?

श्री राम सहाय पांडे : खूनी पंजा तो अच्छी किताब है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इखलाक भी आदमी आदमी पर मुन्हस्सर होता है ।

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: The hon. Minister stated that there was no monopoly concern in the railway bookstalls. I think he is not correct. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many bookstalls have been given to Wheeler and how many to Higginbothams in the whole of South India.

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking a question on some statistical information.

SHRI G. VISVANATHAN: It comes under the question.

MR. SPEAKER: South India.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: Let him give for the whole of India. I never put an irrelevant question.

SHRI MDHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Wheelers are having 381 bookstalls and Higginbothams have got 49 bookstalls.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN: He says there is no monopoly. What else is this?

SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI: They are our licensees. There is a contract between them and us. We can terminate the contract any time we like. How is it a monopoly?

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Pursuing the question of Shri Shankar Dayal Singh, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he proposes to have an Advisory Committee for the railways for selecting books, so that passengers can have good literature at the bookstalls.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : There was a Bookstall Committee for each division. They were amalgamated later on with the Zonal Consultative Committee. But now we are trying to revive these committees, and there will be a Bookstall Committee for each zone.

श्री दत्तोबर पांडे : मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो गन्दी गन्दी किताबें वहां बुक-स्टालों पर रहती है, शायद उसकी जानकारी उनको पूरी नही है, लेकिन क्या यह जानकारी है कि जो सरकारी प्रकाशन है, अच्छी किताबे है वह वहां पर बिल्कुल नही रहती है ? क्या इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था वह करेंगे कि सरकार के जो अच्छे प्रकाशन है, जो सरकार द्वारा उपयोगी पुस्तक छापी जाती है, उन किताबों को उन बुक-स्टालों पर रखा जाये और उनको वहां बेचने की कोशिश की जाये ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : ऐसी किताबें भी हैं। लेकिन यह पढ़ने वाले के शौक पर डिपेंड करता है कि वह कौनसी किताब पढता है।

श्री दामोदर पांडे : ऐसी किताबें उन बुक-स्टालों पर नहीं होतीं हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सफर में धार्मिक किताबें पढ़ाई जायें, और आपकी छापी हुई किताबें पढाई जायें।

श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने व्हीलर कंपनी की चर्चा करते हुये बताया कि उसके साथ हमारा कंट्रेक्ट है। उस कंट्रेक्ट को बढाते हैं तो वह कंट्रेक्ट खत्म भी कर सकते हैं। हम जानना चाहते हैं कि क्या रेलवे स्टेशनों पर किताबों को बेचने के लिये कंट्रेक्ट टैंडर पब्लिकली इन्वाइट किये जाते हैं ? उसमें कंपीटीशन के क्या तरीके होते हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं श्री शेखर दयाल सिंह जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूं कि आज वह यहां हैं। इसके पहले 8 महीने से मैं लगातार देखता आ रहा हूं कि जब कभी रेलवे के बुक-स्टाल पर प्रश्न आता है तो जिस के नाम से वह होता है वह मेम्बर उस समय गायब रहता है। हम सोचा करते थे कि क्या दबाव पड़ता है ? यह दबाव न केवल हम लोगों पर बल्कि मंत्रालय पर भी पड़ता है। (व्यवधान) मैं जानता हूं वह इलाहाबाद का है और किस तरह से लोगों पर दबाव डालता है। वह हमारा विरोधी है। ऐसा मत समझिये कि मैं उसे जानता नहीं हूं।

मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या पब्लिकली कभी कंट्रेक्ट टैंडर रेलवे बुक-स्टालों के लिये मंगाये जाते हैं ? इन्होंने एक ही फर्म को बताया है जो 300 से ऊपर जगह पर किताबें बेचती है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि 300 पर, 500 पर या हजार पर कितने पर आप मोनोपली मानेंगे ? कितने स्टालों पर उसकी मोनोपली मानी जायेगी यह बताया जाये ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : इसका बाकायदा अखबारों में चर्चा किया जाता है। जब भी कोई बुक-स्टाल खाली होता है, उसका एडवर्टाइजमेंट किया जाता है। उसके बाद जो आते हैं, एक लाइसेंस सिस्टम है ढाई परसेंट रोयल्टि या लाइसेंस फीस लेकर उसे दे देते हैं। अभी 256 बुक स्टाल खाली पडे हैं जिसका हमने बाकायदा एडवरटाजमेंट हर अखबार में किया कि जो अन-एम्प्लायड ग्रेज्युएट्स हैं वह एप्लाई करें। 19 दरख्वास्तें अन-एम्प्लायड ग्रेज्युएट्स की आई हैं। बाकी 200 से ज्यादा स्टाल खाली पडे हैं। अगर कोई दरख्वास्तें आयेंगी तो हम तसलीम कर लेंगे।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि उन बुक स्टालों पर कैसा और कौनसा साहित्य बिके, क्या इसकी कोई सूची आपने बुक-स्टालों को दी है। यदि हां, तो कौनसी सूची है ? क्या यह बात सही है कि रेलवे बोर्ड ने जोनल को और जोनल ने डी० एस० को आदेश दिये हैं कि कुछ समाचार-पत्र साप्ताहिक और दैनिक इन स्टालों पर न बिकें जैसे आर्गेनाइजर, पाचजन्य और मदरलैंड है ? क्या यह सही है ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : कोई अखबार, किताब या रिसाला किस पार्टी से ताल्लुक रखता है, इस बुनियाद पर उसको स्टाल पर बेचने से मना नहीं किया जाता है। अगर गवर्नमेंट किसी को बैन करती है तो उसका असर जरूर हमारे ऊपर पड़ता है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैंने सूची की बात पूछी है क्या कोई सूची है ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है।

श्री हरि किशोर सिंह : क्या रेलवे में ऐसी व्यवस्था है कि बुक स्टाल का सब-कंट्रेक्ट दिया जाये ? क्योंकि यह कंट्रेक्ट व्हीलर कंपनी वाले लेते हैं । मेरी जानकारी जितनी है उसके अनुसार वे सब कंट्रेक्ट देते हैं । क्या ऐसी व्यवस्था है या नहीं ? अगर यह व्यवस्था गैर-कानूनी है तो इस पर मंत्री महोदय क्या कोई कार्यवाही करेंगे ?

श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी : जो लाइसेंस दिया जाता है वह तो ट्रांसफर नहीं कर सकते । लेकिन लाइसेंस को यह हक है कि वह अपना एजेन्ट मुकर्रर कर के अपना कारोबार चलाये ।

Jaipur Udyog Limited

*738. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that serious crisis is being faced by the Jaipur Udyog Limited, the biggest cement concern in Asia belonging to Aloka Udyog Group due to utter mismanagemnt of its affairs and misuse of funds;

(b) whether a newsitem appearing in 'New Age Weekly' dated the 30th March 1974 concerning this has been brought to the notice of Government;

(c) if so, reaction of Government thereto ; and

(d) the steps so far taken for putting an end to these practices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : (a) Government are aware that Jaipur Udyog Ltd. has incurred heavy losses during its accounting years 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74.

(b) and (c) Government have seen a news report in the 'New Age' of 30th March, 1975 (and is not aware of any such report on 30th March, 1974) which alleges, inter alia, that Jaipur Udyog Ltd. has defaulted in the repayment of loans and in the deposit of employees' provident fund and compulsory deposit amounts.

(d) An inspection of the books of accounts of Jaipur Udyog Ltd. has been carried out in 1973, and action in respect of the irregularities and contraventions of the Companies Act, 1956 are being taken by the Registrar of Companies. In respect of other matters for which action by other Departments or Ministries are required, necessary particulars have been furnished to them.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: I may say that the Government is making an attempt to play down the seriousness of the matter involved in the question. This company is the biggest cement factory in our country, which is heavily financed by loans by the Rajasthan Government and it has also been given calcium mines at subsidised rates by the Rajasthan Government. Sir, this company is producing only 30% of its installed capacity.

(Interruption)

When the whole country is facing such a serious cement crisis, they are producing only 30% of the installed capacity.

Moreover, the spending by the Directors of the company has landed the company today in near bankruptcy. They have to pay crores or lakhs of rupees to the Punjab National Bank, and the bank is now taking measures to. . .

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: My question was clear but the Government did not answer it properly; and that is why I am asking again. What I am saying is that there are serious allegations against this company and I am asking whether the Government is going to take some measures with a sense of emergency so that the monopoly house can be brought to book.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I have already stated that we have taken a

number of steps. We have also referred it to the Department concerned and, where action under the Company Law is required, we are taking action under the Company Law.

Regarding the mine, I am not in a position to say anything the installed capacity used is not 30%. We have checked up, and it is 56% of the installed capacity.

But it is a fact that the company is losing heavily. The loses were Rs 2,94,000,00 in 1973-74. Previously also during the last two or three years, the company was losing heavily and its paid-up capital appears to be balanced by the losses

Regarding the charge of indiscriminate spending, in the Inspection Report of 1973 we found certain things which were not properly explained and we have referred the expenditure to the Income-tax Department for necessary action and because the expenditure was found to be not properly made, we have referred it to the concerned Departments also

SHRI C K. CHANDRAPPAN While answering a question in the Rajasthan State Assembly on March 18, the State Labour Minister stated that they cannot proceed against this company unless the Central Government gives its concurrence. Has this been brought to the notice of the Government and, if so, has the Government given its concurrence and has the Government allowed the Rajasthan Government to proceed against the company?

Secondly, in view of the fact that the company is incurring losses for several years and indiscriminate spending has been found out, what prevents the Government from nationalising this company which is a monopoly house?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: It is true that the Minister did say in the Rajasthan Assembly that he was not in a position to take action as this was in the sphere of the Central Government That is why we have made a reference to the Ministry of Industrial Development for action under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act—under which any action, including take-over, can be taken.

I would further say, in reply to Mr. Salve's question whether we can take 'other' action, that it is true we can take other action under other Sections of the Law like appointment of directors etc. But the situation is such that we thought the Ministry of Industrial Development should go into the whole matter so that any immediate action which they think is necessary could be taken. We made a reference to them after our Inspection Report in 1973, when an inspection of the company was completed.

SHRI N. K P. SALVE: All I want to know is this The Directors function in a fiduciary capacity to the shareholders. A legitimate business loss is something for which they may not be personally liable But some sort of expenditure which, the Minister himself has said, is improper tantamounts to breach of trust and the Directors can be hauled up for malfeasance and misfeasance. May I know what prevents him, in a case like this, if the report is already there, from taking expeditious action for prosecution for various offences under the Companies Act and under the IPC for malfeasance and misfeasance?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I have already said that action is being taken I cannot say if it is for misfeasance. They are being examined. I can give a number of cases where they are connected with income-tax, rather than misfeasance, and other things like managing director's appointment and all that where the company law is involved and where we have taken necessary action. We are going to take action according to the law.

SHRI N.K.P SALVE: That is not my question. A person may mis-spend any amount of money; that, by itself, will not constitute an offence under the income-tax law unless he has done something by way of concealment of income. Under the Companies Act there are specific provisions and also under the IPC where the directors can be hauled up.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I can only say that we will look into the matter.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Aloke Udyog are squandering the money and are indulging in misappropriation of the funds belonging to the shareholders, and this has been brought to the notice of the Government for a long time. The Minister has answered that they have referred the various matters to the various Departments. I would like to know the *modus operandi* of this company and what is the amount of cheating which they have done so far as the shareholders are concerned for which the Ministry of Company Affairs can take action. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the reason for the deliberate delay in taking such action which comes within the purview of the Ministry of Company Affairs.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I have already said that we have taken action that is required under the companies law.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: What action have you taken? There are several offences which have been committed.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: So far as I am aware the shareholders have not made any complaint to this Department.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Are you satisfied with this answer, Sir? He says that the shareholders have not made any complaint. The *New Age* has drawn the attention of the people of this country. I want to know why action has not been taken (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I have already stated that there have been a number of charges that have appeared in the New Age. I have already said how much action has been taken under the Companies Act, and we have also referred to the other Departments for necessary action.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Our difficulty is that, in his reply, the hon. Minister has admitted that the inspection reports for the last two or three years have definitely revealed that there has been exorbitant, excessive and unwarranted spending, which has resulted in such heavy losses that their capital has almost been wiped out. Therefore, I would like to know from him specifically whether it is a job of the Company Law Board or the Company Law Department, simply to function as a sort of post-office sending things either to the Finance Ministry or the Labour Ministry or the Industrial Development Ministry for action or whether they themselves are in a position under the Companies Act to take action by way of launching prosecution against the Directors of this Company and I want to know why they have not taken such action and what are the names of those gentlemen who are the present Directors of this Company? I would like to know.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: First of all, let me give the list of Directors of this company. They are:

Shri Alok Prasad Jain .	Chairman & Mg. Director.
Smt. Sushila Jain . .	Director
Shri Chunilal Jaipuria	,,
Shri M.P. Jhalani . .	,,
Shri Nil Ratan Khaitan	,,
Shri Narch Chandra, Secy., Department of Industries & Mines, Rajasthan	,,
Shri Rajeswara Patel .	,,
Shri A. C. Chakravarty .	,,
Shri B.K. Shroff .	,,

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What action have you taken?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Only when I go into the details I can tell you.

Whatever contraventions we have found under the law, we have taken action in that regard and we have proceeded under the company law in that regard.

SHRI PILOO MODY: But you have been told to assure that you have taken action.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question—Shri Gajadhar Majhi.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: One question—I have been standing and you are not seeing.

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. The question was in the name of Shri Chandrappan. After Mr. Chandrappan, Mr. Indrajit Gupta has put questions. Still, you are not satisfied. . .

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Even after that, there is a specific question. Had you allowed me, I would have finished by now.

MR. SPEAKER: I have no other choice left.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I want to draw the attention of the Minister to one aspect of the matter. In regard to Alcok Ashdown, for five years an inquiry into its mis-management was going on and ultimately the matter was dropped. Similarly, here also how many years you will take to deal with these matters and after the inquiry report, how many more years will you take to take action? Not only the inquiry but after the inquiry report action is also possible, then merely you say it has been referred to some other Ministry. And after reference, there will be a further reference. I want to know how many times reminders were sent to the Industrial Development Ministry for taking action. I want to know what steps you have taken And also what is the date of reference?

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not ask questions round and round.

SHRI D. K PANDA: I am not asking anything round and round. I have put a straight question and let the answer be also straight.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Apart from the investigation under the Industries Development and Regulation Act, it is upto the Ministry of Industrial Development to take action under the IDR Act, including take-over of the sick company. It is not given to this Department to take over a company under any set of circumstances So we have made a reference to the Ministry and the Ministry can take action on its own also I have already stated that in view of these facts we have also made another reference to the Ministry suggesting certain action under the IDR Act

SHRI D. K. PANDA: When was the reference made? I want to know the date.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: After the 1973 inspection we made one reference and then we are again making a reference under the new set of circumstances that have arisen and we have suggested, that because of the new set of circumstances, the Ministry of Industrial Development should consider the matter seriously and also what action should be taken under the IDR Act.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: *rose.*

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. Everytime you get up.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Because the answer is evasive. My question was: how many reminders have you sent.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

बाल विवाह निषेध अधिनियम में संशोधन

*740. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय**: क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बाल विवाह को रोकने की दृष्टी से बाल विवाह निषेध अधिनियम को और अधिक प्रभावशाली बनाने के लिए उक्त अधिनियम मे कुछ सशोधन करने का सरकार का विचार है ; और

(ख) क्या वर्तमान कानून के अन्तर्गत ऐसे अपराधों को दण्डनीय नही बनाया गया है, जिसमें सरकार स्वत. कार्यवाही नहीं कर सकती है ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI): (a) and (b) The offences under the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 are not cognizable. However, by a local amendment it has been made cognizable in the State of Gujarat. Certain proposals for amending the Act are receiving the attention of the Government.

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय: अध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री महोदया ने बतलाया है कि गुजरात राज्य ने एक स्थानीय संशोधन से इस कानून को काग्निजेबल बनाया है, लेकिन सारे देश में काग्निजेबल न होने से आज भी छोटे-छोटे बच्चों के, मोद में लिये

जानेवाले बच्चों के भी विवाह हो रहे है और बड़ी संख्या में हो रहे हैं, एक साथ 100-100 विवाह तक होते देखे जा रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आप कोई निश्चित समय बतला सकेंगे कि जिस के अन्तर्गत आप इस कानून को कान्निजेबल बनाने का प्रयत्न करेंगे ?

डा० सरोजनी महिषी : कान्निजेबल बनाने के पक्ष में कुछ राज्यों ने अपनी राय दी है, लेकिन अभी भी कई राज्य ऐसे हैं जो इस को कान्निजेबल बनाने के पक्ष में नहीं हैं। जहां कान्निजेबल बनाया गया है, वहां भी ऐसे बहुत से केसेस सामने आये है, जैसे गुजरात में 1970-71 और 72 इन तीन सालों में 1934 केसेज हुए है .....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने कैसेज की तादाद नहीं पूछी है। वे जानना चाहते हैं कि आप इस के बारे में क्या कर रहे है ?

डा० सरोजनी महिषी : कई स्टैटों की सहमति आई है, लेकिन कई स्टेटों की सहमति नहीं आई है, इस लिये अभी विचाराधीन है।

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने स्पष्ट पूछा था कि आप किस तारीख तक—साल भर में, 6 महीने में या कब तक किस तारीख तक इस कानून में परिवर्तन करने जा रहे है ? एक तरफ आप परिवार नियोजन के कार्यक्रम पर लाखों रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, लेकिन दूसरी ओर इस कानून को कान्निजेबल नहीं बना रहे है। परिवार नियोजन पर जितना पैसा खर्च हो रहा है, वह सब बेकार जा रहा है। जब तक आप इस कानून को कान्निजेबल नहीं बनायेंगे यह प्रक्रिया चलती रहेगी। आप स्वयं इस को कर सकते हैं, गुजरात ने स्वयं किया है।

डा० सरोजिनी महिषी : इसे कान्निजेबल बना सकते हैं, इस में कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। गुजरात ने 1964 के कानून के अनुसार इसमें संशोधन किया, लेकिन जो स्टेट्स नहीं चाहती थी, उन्होंने नहीं किया। इन सारी बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए एक स्टेज पर यह निर्णय लिया गया था कि अगर स्टेट स्वयं इस को कान्निजेबल बनायें तो उस का ज्यादा लाभ होगा। जहां तक हमारा सम्बन्ध है—चूंकी अभी कई स्टैट्स सहमत नहीं है, इसलिये निश्चित डेट के बारे में अभी निर्णय नहीं लिया जा सकता।

SHRI VASANT SATHEY: I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. In view of the fact that Sharda Act was passed so many years back, since then, we seem to be taking this issue so lightly, that no attention has been paid, as you are aware, to this question of child marriage which is so very important for the entire question of Family Planning. The age group 16-21 has been stated to be the most productive years and all your campaign of Tricon and Nirodh will be absolutely ineffective unless you increase the age of marriage. In view of this, I would like to know as to why you are taking a shelter under the pretext that some States are not willing Have you taken it up seriously with the States, (a) that it should be made a cognisable offence;.... and (b) the age should be increased from 14 to at least 18, if not, 21? Whereas, on the one side we are talking of reducing the voting age to 18, at least the age of marriage should be increased to 21. That is the minimum that you should do if you want to stop the growth of family or the number of children, especially when the population is bursting. Actually, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: Sir, this was very seriously considerd by the Ministry of Health and Family Planning and by Ministry of Law.

(Interruptions).

SHRI VASANT SATHEY: The question of increasing the age should be considered by you and not by the Ministry of Health and Family Planning.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, why are you so aggressive to a lady?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not aggressive.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: It should be done by us in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Planning. Before taking a decision in the matter, both the Ministries collectively thought about these things and they arrived at some conclusions.

SHRI PILOO MODY: The compromise age may be 19½.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: I would like to say that 80% of the population live in villages. If the marriageable age of girls and boys is raised, that means those who are mainly affected will be the rural people. Therefore, in this age group, that is, 14 to 15 and 18, unless vocational outlets are given to them, it would be very difficult to manage. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. It is a very mature suggestion.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: As the wording goes, the climate, amongst the most vulnerable areas of our population which consists of the rural people—the tribals and slum dwellers—and that accounts for 81 per cent of our population, is that the proposed legislation is not suitable. We should avoid this doctrinnaire approach and, unless the society has prepared a programme for the uneducated girls in the villages which belong to the age-group of 15 to 18 years, it would be premature to raise the marriage age.

A few years back, this was the conclusion arrived at. I have given the reasons for that.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: By whom was this arrived at?

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: By the Ministry of Health and Family Planning. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Sathe, after all, you must listen also to what the Minister has got to say.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: I was telling that the Ministry of Law and Ministry of Health and Family Planning and the concerned Ministries thought over the whole matter and taking this into consideration as also the opinions given by the different State Governments at that time came to the conclusion that the condition now is not suited for raising the marriageable age of the girls.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Since then the population growth by the end of this century would have gone up to 100 crores.

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GHOKHALE): Sir, the impression given that we are against the suggestions made by the hon Members is not correct. On the contrary, we are in general agreement with the view that there should be a change both in the case of girls as well as the boys by increasing the age for the marriage.

This is a social legislation. In any case, we cannot enforce these matters by law merely. Sharda Act has been there and yet it became infructuous because things could not be imposed by law.

With regard to making the offence cognizable also, our minds are not closed. I can assure you that we are considering that question also very seriously Although another point of view was there against making it a cognizable offence, it has to be given some weight before a final conclusion is reached. In rural areas, this might be utilised for harassing the people. There is a complaint which we have received from many people who have sent in their opinions. In fact a draft was circulated for the public opinion. The State Governments have said that by merely making it a cognisable offence it might lead to a lot of harassment in many cases, particularly, in the rural areas.

Therefore, deliberately, we have decided to hasten slowly. But, I can assure you that our minds are not closed. Broadly, in principle, we are in agreement with what the hon. Members have suggested and the matter is not closed. It is very seriously under consideration.

Outlay for laying Kota Bundi Railway Lines

*750 SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to lay railway lines in those States which are prepared to bear the expenditure;

(b) if so, the outlay involved in laying 22 mile long railway line from Kota to Bundi in Rajasthan; and

(c) the amount of assistance to be given by the Central Government for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The Railways will have no objection to laying new railway lines for which the State Governments are willing to bear the entire initial cost and also the operating losses.

(b) The cost of construction varies widely depending upon the terrain and the standard of construction On an approximate basis, however, the line from Kota to Bundi which will have a length of 35 km. will cost Rs 45 crores.

(c) The funds allotted to the Railways for construction of new railway lines in the 5th Plan have already been committed fully and it may not be possible for them to make any contribution in the construction of the proposed line in the 5th Plan period unless their allotment of funds is increased.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कोटा बूंदी चितौड रेलवे लाईन का प्रश्न 15 साल से चल रहा रहा है और रेलवे मंत्रालय इस पर बिल्कुल ध्यान नहीं देता। तो पांचवी योजना में अगर आप इसको नही ले सकते, तो कोई सप्लीमेंटरी बजट बना कर ही ले लीजिये क्योंकि यह बहुत ही पिछड़ा हुआ एरीया है, ज्यादातर वहा शेड्यूल कास्टस के लोग है और हमेशा वहा अकाल पड़ता रहता है। ऐसी जगहों पर आपने पहले भी महाराष्ट्र मे लाईन बिछाई है, फिर इस 35 किलोमीटर लम्बी लाईन को न बनाने की क्या वजह है। अगर आपको इस लाईन को नहीं बनाना है तो वैसा कहिये ?

श्री बूटा सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सवाल मे यह कहा गया है कि राज्य सरकार पूरा खर्चा इस का बर्दाश्त करेगी। अब अगर राज्य सरकार इस का खर्चा बर्दाश्त करने के लिये तैयार हो तो वे रेलवे मत्रालय को आपत्ति नही है।

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : राज्य सरकार आधा खर्च देने को तैयार है। केन्द्रीय सरकार भी आधा खर्चा देगी कि नही ?

श्री बूटा सिंह : क्या माननीय सदस्य राज्य सरकार के आधार पर बोल रहे है ?

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : यह मेरी कास्टीट्यूसी है, मैं उसी के आधार पर बोल रहा हू कि राज्य सरकार आधा खर्चा देने को तैयार है।

श्री बूटा सिंह : हम सदस्य महोदय के प्रोपोजल को राज्य सरकार से पूछेगे। उन्होंने अगर मान लिया तो इस के उपर फिर विचार करेगे।

श्री ब्रजराज सिंह कोटा : राजस्थान सरकार एक थर्मल प्रोजेक्ट वहां बनाने जा रही है और वह कोटा में बूंदी साइड की तरफ नदी के किनारे बनेगा और उस थर्मल प्रोजेक्ट के लिये आप को कोयला आदि ले जाने के लिये लाईन बनानी है। तो क्या आप इस दृष्टिकोण से भी विचार करेंगे कि जब आपको

रेलवे लाइन उस प्लान्ट के लिये ले जानी है तो उसी लाइन को बढ़ा कर बूंदी और चितोड़ तक क्यों नहीं ले जाते ।

श्री बूटा सिंह : जब यह व्यवस्था सामने आयेगी तो जरूर उस के उपर विचार किया जायगा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो आयी हुई है ।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Law to Prohibit Animal Slaughter in Temples

*731. SHRI BANAMALI BABU. Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice still exists in several parts of the country regarding killing of animals and birds in or within the premises of temples or other places of public religious worship; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce legislation to prohibit animal slaughter totally in the temples?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b) As the question relates to a matter falling mainly under entry 15 of the State list, namely 'Preservation protection and improvement of Stock', the State Governments are concerned, and the Central Government has no authentic information. In fact the Government of Kerala and Tamil Nadu have enacted legislation to prohibit sacrifies of animals or birds in the precincts of temples.

Techno-Economic survey for Eklakhi-Balurghat Railway

*734. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an techno-economic survey has been made for Eklakhi-Balurghat railway line;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) the action taken upto date to construct this railway line?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS. (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Traffic Survey for a new B. G. line from Eklakhi to Balurghat via Gajol, Buniadpur and Gangarampur has been completed and the reports are under examination. A final decision in the matter would however, be taken after examination of the report is completed.

Allotment of petrol pumps in Kerala

*735. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps allotted in Kerala during the last three years, District-wise;

(b) the number of petrol pumps allotted to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(c) the number of those allotted to persons belonging to other backward classes?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) Retail outlets (Petrol Pumps) are set up by oil Companies based on commercial considerations. A statement showing the details of retail outlets set up in Kerala during the last three years, district-wise is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Except IOC no other oil Company has any reservation of agencies/retail outlets for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes. IOC has issued in all six appointment letters to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Tribes during 1974-75 for setting up of retail outlets.

(c) No such statistics are maintained by IOC at present.

Statement

Names of District	No. of retail outlets				
	IOC	IBP	HPC	Burmah-Shell	Caltex
Phalghat	1	..	..	..	..
Cannanore	1	..	..	1	..
Quilon	1	1	2	1	..
Calicut (Kozhikode)	2	..	..	..	..
Kottayam	1	..	..	..	..
Ernakulam	..	2	1	..	..
Malappuram	..	..	1	..	..
Idikki	..	..	1	..	..
Trichur	..	..	..	2	..
TOTAL	6	3	5	4	1

The information regarding IOC and Caltex is on financial year basis while in respect of others it is on calendar year basis

Steps to increase Production of Drugs

*736. SHRI P. R SHENOY: Will the Minister of PETROLEAUM ND CHEMICALLS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to increase the Production of drugs and to produce new drugs in the country in the year 1974-75;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken in the year 1975-76; and

(c) whether the country would be self-reliant in drug industry and if so, by what time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THS MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) In order to assess the present status of the drug industry and to draw up plans for the Fifth Plan Period and also to study as to how the plan requirements could be achieved along with other related matters, the Planning Commission had set up a Task Force on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals. The Task Force submitted its report to the Planning Commission in 1973. The report contains various recommendations on the various bulk drugs and intermediates whose production has to be increased.

Again in the context of the large scale expansion of the drugs and pharmaceutical industry envisaged during the Fifth Plan and with a view to ensuring regulated and rapid growth of drugs manufacture and other matters, Government set up a Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry. The Committee had submitted its report on 6th April 1975 and it is under examination.

Government had also published "Guidelines for Industries, 1974-75" for the information of the entrepreneurs and it includes information on Drugs and pharmaceuticals Industry indicating the requirements for the Fifth Plan and other relevant details.

The Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals had earlier submitted its report on measures for providing essential drugs and common house-hold remedies to the general public, especially

in rural areas, and have identified 117 drug formulations production of which should be taken up on a mass scale in the country. A copy of the report was laid on the Table of the House on the 4th March, 1975.

Government have already initiated action on the establishment of further capacity for drugs either by expansion or by the setting up of new units taking into account the various recommendations of the Task Force and the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical—Industry.

Furthermore, discussions have been initiated with the public and Indian sector to identify their role in the production of essential antibiotics and synthetic drugs in the context of the Fifth Plan requirements of drugs which is to increase from the present production of about 3000 tonnes to about 10,000 tonnes. A two day conference of Public Sector Undertakings in the drug industry was held on the 12th and 13th March 1975 under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State for Petroleum and Chemicals. In the meeting it was noted that Public Sector units would increase their production from the present level of 1500 tonnes to 5000 tonnes.

The Indian Sector has presented a blue print to the Minister of State for Petroleum and Chemicals which indicates that 23 units will take up the production of 27 drugs in the near future

(c) Efforts are being made in India to develop research base with a view to developing new drugs so as to meet increasing demand in the country for drugs and avoid dependence on imports to the maximum extent possible. The programme envisaged for the Public Sector and in the private sector especially Indian Sector would lead to doubling up of production during the 5th Plan Period and therefore would take us nearer the goal of self-sufficiency.

Indane Gas

*739. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are names of the district headquarters in the country where Indane Gas has not yet been made available; and

(b) whether Government propose to extend distribution of Indane Gas to all district headquarters in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) A statement showing names of places in the country, including district headquarters, where Indane has been introduced is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) The decision to extend distribution of Indane Gas to a particular town is taken based on various considerations like potential of the area, product availability, nearness of the market to the refinery, cylinder turn around etc. There is no specific plan for introducing Indane gas in the district headquarters first.

Statement

Places including district headquarters where Indane has been indroduced

Allahabad, Varanasi, Gorakhpur, Agra, Dehradun, Muzafarnagar, Saharanpur, Aligarh, Lucknow, Kanpur, Barcilly, Meerut, Hardwar, Rishikesh, Roorkee, Ghaziabad, Delhi, Chandigarh, Simla, Jaipur, Ajmer, Jodhpur, Pilani, Amritsar, Ludhiana, Jullundur, Karnal, Hissar, Ambala, Gurgaon, Rohtak, Sonipat, Faridabad, Panipat, Satna, Raipur, Bhopal, Ujjain, Indore, Gwalior, Bhilai, Nagda, Ratlam, Sagar, Jabalpur, Mhow, Damoh, Patna, Ranchi, Darbhanga, Gaya; Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur, Dhanbad, Arah, Chapra, Monghyr, Purnea, Jamshedpur, Barauni, Samastipur, Bokaro, Buxur, Calcutta, Durgapur, Asansol, Kharagpur, Siliguri, Gauhati, Tejpur, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Nowgong, Shillong, Rourkela, Baroda, Surat, Ahmedabad, Broach, Godhra, Rajkot, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Dohad, Surendranagar, Gandhinagar, Jawaharnagar, Nadiad, Anand, Porbander, Bhuj, Morvi, Madras, Cuddalore, Vellore, Madurai, Thiruchi, Tinneveli, Coimbatore, Tanjore, Salem, Ooty, Chinglepet, Kanjeevaram, Chidambaram, Neivelli, Villipuram, Tuticorin, Karaikudi, Kumbakonam, Nagapatinam, Mayuram, Pudukottai, Dindigul, Conoor, Erode, Mettupalayam, Pollachi, Tirupur, Tindivanam, Nagercoil, Rajapalayam, Kolar, Mysore, Bangalore, Mangalore, Tumkur, Mercara, Udipi, KGF, Davangere,

Badravathi, Chittoor, Guntur, Hyderabad, Ongole, Ananthapur, Thirupathi, Vijayawada, Tennali, Adone, Telicherry, Madanpalli, Kottayam, Cannanore, Calicut (Kozhikode), Trivandrum, Cochin, Palghat, Trichur, Ernakulam, Quilon, Alwaye, Alleppey and Pondicherry.

Railway projects for Gujarat State on Western Railway

*741. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the main projects which are in hand and under construction of the Railway authority for the construction of (i) new rail lines, (ii) for the extension of rail lines, and (iii) for the changing from metre gauge to broad gauge lines in Gujarat State on Western Railway;

(b) the progress of these projects; and

(c) when will they be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) The details and other particulars of the new lines, extension and gauge conversion works in progress in Gujarat State on the Western Railway are as follows :

S. No.	Name of the work, length, gauge	Cost (Rs. in crores)	Progress	Target date of completion
	(a) *works in Progress*			
1.	Sabarmati-Gandhinagar new line (30.0 kms.; B.G.)	2.85	68%	31-12-1975
2.	Viramgam-Okha/Porbandar M.G. to B.G. conversion (356.97 kms.)	42 93	35%	Work is in progress. Revised target date not fixed.

मई 1974 की रेल हड़ताल में भाग लेने वाले कर्मचारी

*742. **श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :**
श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न रेलवे क्षेत्रों (जोनो) में ऐसे रेल कर्मचारियों की संख्या कितनी-कितनी है जिन्होंने गत रेल हड़ताल में भाग लिया था और उन कर्मचारियों की संख्या क्या है ;

(1) जिन पर हिंसा या ध्वंस की कार्यवाही के आरोप में अभियोग चल रहे हैं;

(2) जिन पर ऐसे अभियोग चल रहे है जिनमें हिंसा व ध्वंस के आरोप नहीं हैं;

(3) जिनको अभी तक नौकरी पर वापिस नहीं लिया गया है;

(4) जिनको नौकरी में व्यवधान को रद्द नहीं किया गया है ; और

(5) जिनकी अपीलों को नामंजूर कर दिया गया है ;

(ख) उपर्युक्त तथ्यों को ध्यान में रखते हुये परिस्थिति को सामान्य बनाने और बदले की कार्यवाही को समाप्त करने के लिये कार्यवाही कब तक पूरी कर ली जायेगी ; और

(ग) क्या उपर्युक्त भाग (क) में (2), (3), (4) और (5) में उल्लिखित कर्मचारियों के साथ कोई आम रियायत की जायेगी और यदि हां तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ऐसा कब तक किया जायेगा ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुहम्मद शफी कुरेशी) : (क) कृपया विवरण दे

(ख) रेलों पर मैत्रीपूर्ण और बेहतर श्रमिक सम्बन्धों को स्थापना के उद्देश्य से मई, 1974 के गैर-कानूनी हड़ताल से सम्बन्धित सभी कर्मचारियों की अपीलों पर सहानुभूति पूर्वक विचार करके शीघ्र निर्णय किया जाता है।

(ग) यद्यपि सरकार की घोषित नीति के अनुसार आम माफी नहीं दी जा सकती फिर भी, अलग-अलग मामलों पर विचार करते समय उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनाया जाता है।

विवरण

रेलवे	हड़ताल मे भाग लेने वाले कर्मचारियों की सख्या	उन कर्मचारियों की सख्या जिन पर तोड फोड/हिसा के लिए मुकदमा चलाया गया	उनकी सख्या जिन पर तोड फोड/हिसा से भिन्न आरोपो के लिए मुकदमा चलाया गया	उन स्थायी/अस्थायी-कर्मचारियों की सख्या जिन्हे अभी तक सेवा मे वापस नही लिया गया है	उनकी संख्या जिनकी सेवा भग माफ नही किया गया है	उनकी सख्या जिनके अभ्यावेदन/अपीले नामजूर कर दी गयी है
मध्य .	65,602	65	22	136	254	135
पूर्व .	115,868		..	451	469	321
उत्तर .	38,453	1	9	82	73	80
पूर्वोत्तर	17,506	107	111	28	260	28
पूर्वोत्तर-सीमा	65,000	13	23	262		2
दक्षिण	65,115	41		55	1 626	49
दक्षिण-मध्य	43,748	6	..	19		332
दक्षिणपूर्व	78,869	95	213	449	1,000	332
पश्चिम	72,581	44	5	147	150	93
जोड	562,742	372	383	1,629	3,852	1,040

धनबाद स्थित डी० एस० कार्यालय के अनुसचिवीय कर्मचारियों द्वारा प्रदर्शन

*743. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री :** क्या रेल मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि :

(क) क्या 28 फरवरी, 1975 को धनबाद स्थित डी० एस० कार्यालय मे काम करने वाले करीब बारह सौ अनुसचिवीय एव अन्य कर्मचारियों ने प्रदर्शन किया था,

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण थे ; और

(ग) सरकार ने उनकी मागों को पूरा करने की दिशा मे कौन-सी कार्यवाही की है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) और (ख) लगभग 200 व्यक्तियों अधिकाशत भूतपर्व कर्मचारी और कुछ कार्यरत कर्मचारियों द्वारा कार्यालय समय के दौरान मडल अधिक्षक के कार्यालय के सामने प्रदर्शन किये जाने तथा नारे लगाये जाने की रिपोर्ट मिली है। पता चला है कि इस प्रदर्शन मे उन लोगों ने फरवरी में

सिकंदराबाद में आयोजित अखिल भारतीय रेल कर्मचारी महासंघ की बैठक में लिए गये निर्णयों का स्पष्टीकरण किया तथा 17-3-75 और 18-3-75 को संसद के सामने प्रस्तावित सामूहिक भूख हड़ताल का भी उल्लेख किया। उन्होंने बर्खास्त किये गये रेल कर्मचारियों को पुन: बहाल किये जाने तथा रेल कर्मचारी संघर्ष राष्ट्रीय समन्वय समिति के साथ आगे बातचीत करने के बारे में भी नारे लगाये।

(ग) बर्खास्त किये गये/सेवा से हटाये गये लगभग 16,700 कर्मचारियों में से लगभग 15,200 कर्मचारी पुन: बहाल किये जा चुके हैं। अन्य अपीलों पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

सरकार ने कभी भी रेल कर्मचारी संघर्ष राष्ट्रीय समन्वय समिति को मान्यता प्रदान नहीं की है, लेकिन बातचीत के लिए रेलों के दो मान्यता प्राप्त महासंघों का सदा स्वागत करती है।

Recommendations of working group of B.I.C.P.

*744. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally decided on the implementation of the recommendations of the Working Group of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices regarding prices of essential drugs; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Working Group of the BICP in regard to the first two of the following three terms of their reference have already been adopted by the Government and a statement to that effect was laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 19th April, 1974:—

(i) To study cost structure of 25 bulk drugs and to recommend fair selling prices therefor;

(ii) To review the norms for conversion costs and packaging as prescribed by Government and to recommend the extent to which these require to be modified having regard to the representations received and the objectives of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970; and

(iii) To study any other items germane to the study of the above matters.

As regards item (iii) above, Government had constituted a Committee on Drugs & Pharmaceutical Industry and one of the terms of the Committee was:

> "To examine the measures taken so far to reduce the prices of drugs for the consumer, and to recommend such further measures as may be necessary to rationalise the prices of basic drugs and formulations"

As it was felt that some of the ancillary recommendations of the Working Group may also have a bearing on the conclusions of the Committee it was decided to await the report of the Committee. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 6-4-1975 and the matter is receiving attention.

Free Railway pass for office bearer of "convention of Teenagers"

*745. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a free first class All India Railway pass has been issued to one of the office bearers of "Convention of Teenagers", New Delhi;

(b) if so, the name and designation of the person concerned and reasons for issuing the pass;

(c) whether the question of discontinuing this free pass to the said person is under consideration with Railway Board; and

(d) names and status of other social organisation personnel who are issued with free Railway Passes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri Mahendra Nath, Convenor. The complimentary card Pass has been issued to the Organisation as they work for the emancipation, welfare and economic development of backward classes, Harijans, Adivasis and economically weaker sections of the society, which is in the national interest.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha [*Placed in library. See No. LT—9487/75.*]

Improvement made in Recruitment and Promotion of SC/ST in Railway Services

*746. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what improvement has been made regarding recruitment and promotion of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various Railway Services, zone-wise and category-wise, since formation of Reservation Cell in Railway Board; and

(b) number of specific grievances lodged during the last year by (i) All India Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Government Employees Co-ordination Council, Calcutta and (ii) other Scheduled Caste/Tribe Association and how many of them have been redressed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Two Half Yearly Reports on the progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the Railways for the half years ending 30-9-1973 and 31-3-1974 have already been submitted to Parliament and copies thereof are also available in Parliament Library. The Report for the half year ending 30-9-1974 is likely to be submitted shortly.

(b) The All India Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Government Employees Co-ordination Council, Calcutta is an unrecognised body. No separate statistics are maintained on the Railways of the references received from that Council and similar other unrecognised bodies.

Decision to restrict production of Rock Phosphate at Jhamar Kotra

*747. SHRI HEMENDRA SINGH BANERA : will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had decided to restrict the production of Rock Phosphate at Jhamar Kotra to 500,000 tonnes in 1975-76; if so, the reasons for it;

(b) whether because of this decision the undertaking is not keen on taking early delivery of the heavy earth moving equipments it has ordered for doubling the output; and

(c) whether besides the additional employment opportunity having been blocked, the State Government will be put to heavy losses, if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) No. Sir. The mining programme drawn up by the Rajasthan State Mines and Minerals Limited envisages a production of only five lakh tonnes of rock phosphate during 1975-76.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Impact of Increase in Price of Crude Oil in Production of Chemicals

*748. SHRI P. GANGADEB : SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any estimate has been made of the effect on price increase in crude oil on the cost of production of chemicals, fertilizers and other petrochemical products;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA) : (a) to (c) The steep increases in the price of crude oil during 1973 and 1974 resulted in price increases in the various petroleum products used for the production of fertilizers, petro-chemicals and some chemicals. While nitrogenous fertilizer prices are statutorily controlled, the prices of various petrochemicals are not controlled. The controlled prices of undermentioned fertilizers prior to and from 1st June 1974 were as follows :—

	Before 1-6-1974	From 1-6-1974
	(Rs./MT)	
Urea . .	1,050	2,000
Ammonium Sulphate.	590	935 (For 50 Kg bagging)
Calcium ammonium nitrate (25%N	615	1,035

The prices of the important building blocks in the petrochemicals sector before and after the increase in the price of naphtha were as follows :—

	(Rs./MT)	
	February 1974	April 1974
Ehtylene .	1,650	2,967
Propylene .	2,000	3,303
Butadiene .	2,400	3,763
Benzene .	1,471	2,919

No detailed information is available about prices of chemicals, directly attributable to increase in the cost of crude oil.

Special Family Courts to deal with Judicial separation and Divorce Petitions

*749. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Law Commission has suggested special "family courts" to deal with matters like judicial separation and divorce petitions; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Constitution and organisation of Courts other than the Supreme Court and the High Courts is the concern of the State Governments to whom the 59th Report of the Law Commission on the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, and the Special Marriage Act, 1954, has been sent. Provision for suits relating to matters concerning the family has been made in the proposed order XXXII A in the C.P.C. (Amendment) Bill presently before a Joint Committee.

Dieselisation plan for Central Railway

7078. SHRI B. DHAMANKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided on the dieselisation plan of Central Railway; and

(b) if so, broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SNGH) : (a) and (b) The Policy of the Government is to progressively dieselise freight and passenger services on saturated trunk routes with a view to speeding up the movements and thereby improve the throughput across these routes. Preference has also been accorded to railways which are far away from the coalfields. However, due to limited availability of diesel locomotives, priority in allocation has been given to freight movements. After meeting the requirements of essential freight traffic, the available locomotives are selectively utilised to dieselise over-crowed long distance mail/express trains.

So far, Central Railway has been allotted 224 B.G. main line diesels besides 55 diesel shunters thereby enabling considerable dieselisation of

freight traffic on the trunk routes. In addition, twelve B.G. pairs of passenger trains have also been put on diesel traction on Central Railway.

Diesel Sheds at New Katni, Itarsi and Kurla have already been provided. A new Diesel Shed at Jhansi is under construction. Additional diesels will be allotted to Central Railway when this Shed is ready and allocations will be in consonance with the relative priorities on an all railway basis.

Review of working of multinational firms by Hathi Committee

7079. SHRI NANUBHAI N. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether working of each and every multinational foreign firm was discussed in the Hathi Committee individually, including those having more than 26 per cent foreign equity;

(b) whether Government did not supply either to the Hathi Committee or in answer to Questions the details about equity, agreements, licences, production, overproduction, remittances, particulars of bulk drugs produced and overproduced in respect of foreign firms although these were asked for in these forums: and

(c) if so, whether Government will supply all this information now, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry was received by Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

(b) and (c) Whatever information was asked for and available, was furnished to the Committee and in reply to the Parliament Questions. Details of original/equity foreign holding present paid up capital, remittances, sales turnover, profits etc. in respect of companies having foreign equity between 26% and 50% were furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Nos. 3797 and 3846 respectively answered on the 18th March, 1975. Details of remittances made by foreign companies during the year 1972-73 and 1973-74 under various heads were furnished in reply to Lok Sabah Unstarred Question No. 4818 answered on the 25th March, 1975. Details of Industrial Licences and capacity granted for the manufacture of bulk drugs to foreign companies were furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 791 answered on the 2nd December, 1974. Details of production of various important bulk drugs and the name of the units engaged in their manufacture along with production during the past three years that is 1972, 1973 and 1974 (upto September) was furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 6200 answered on the 15th April, 1975. In addition information asked about particular foreign companies was also furnished as and when required in the relevant questions. Regarding some details about agreements entered by some foreign companies assurances have been given to the House as the details were not readily available. These details are being compiled now and will be furnished to the House in fulfilment of the Assurances.

Rules and regulations for filling in certain forms and proformas by shareholders

7080. SHRI VEKARIA:
SHRI D. P. JADEJA:
SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether shareholders of the Joint Stock Companies and allied bodies are required by recent rules and regulations to fill in certain forms and proformas;

(b) if so, the fact thereof; and

(c) the reasons for enacting such rules and regulations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) Pre-

sumably, the Hon'ble Members are referring to the Companies (Declaration of Beneficial Interest in shares) Rules, 1975. Under these rules, a person, whose name is entered in the Register of Members of a company as the holder of a share in that company but who does not hold the beneficial interest in such shares, is required to make a declaration in Form I prescribed under the Companies (Declaration of Beneficial Interest in Shares) Rules, 1975.

(c) The object is to ensure adequate disclosure of the beneficial ownership of the shares.

Ticketless Travelling on Central Railway during 1973-74 and 1974-75

7081. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ticketless travelling on Central Railway has increased during 1974-75 as compared to previous year: and

(b) if so, what effective measures are taken to tackle the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) The measures that are being taken and are proposed to be intensified to curb ticketless travel are indicated below:—

(1) Special massive checks against ticketless travel by mobilising a large force of ticket checking staff, Railway Protection Force and Government Railway Police and prosecution of the apprehended ticketless travellers.

(2) Joint drives against ticketless travel in co-ordination with the State Governments.

(3) Educative propaganda against ticketless travel among the public particularly among the student community.

(4) Association of the non-official Standing Voluntary Help Committee, functioning in the Ministry of Railways, with the drives against ticketless travel.

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय के अधीन विभागों में हिन्दी का प्रयोग

7082. **श्री सुधाकर पांडे :** क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने उनके मंत्रालय के अधीन सभी विभागों के अधिकारियों और और कर्मचारियों को इस प्रकार के कोई अनुदेश जारी किये हैं कि वे अपने सारे काम में हिन्दी का प्रयोग करें ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन अनुदेशों का पालन न होने के क्या कारण हैं और इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ; और

(ग) इस बात को सुनिश्चित करने के लिये आगे क्या कदम उठाये जाने हैं कि इन विभागों में फाइलों में टिप्पणियां लिखने और पत्र-व्यवहार में हिन्दी का ही प्रयोग हो ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री एच० आर० गोखले) : (क) से (ग) संविधान के अनुच्छेद 343 (1) के अधीन, हिन्दी संघ की राजभाषा है। तथापि, जैसा कि राजभाषा अधिनियम, 1963 यथा संशोधित की धारा 3 में उपबन्धित है, हिन्दी के अतिरिक्त अंग्रेजी भाषा का संघ के उन सभी शासकीय प्रयोजनों के लिए प्रयोग किए जाने की अनुज्ञा दी गई है, जिनके लिए इसका प्रयोग 26 जनवरी, 1965 के ठीक पूर्व किया जा रहा था। अतः केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारी शासकीय कार्य करने के लिए हिन्दी या अंग्रेजी का प्रयोग करने के लिए स्वतंत्र हैं।

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों को सभव विस्तार तक हिन्दी में कार्य करने के लिए प्रोत्साहन दिया जाता है।

Recommendations of Hathi Committee on quality control of drugs

7083. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hathi Committee appointed a sub-committee to discuss in detail item (v) of its Terms of Reference regarding effective quality control, if so, the membership of the sub-committee and its recommendations; and

(b) the reaction and decision of Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Copy of the Interim Report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry on "Quality Control of Drugs and Related Matters" containing the constitution of the sub committee and the recommendations was placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 25th March, 1975. The report is under examination.

मध्य प्रदेश में अलाट किये गये पेट्रोल पम्प

7084. **श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गत दो वर्षों में मध्य प्रदेश को जिलेवार कुल कितने पेट्रोल पम्प अलाट किये गये ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सी० पी० माझी) : गत दो वर्षों के दौरान मध्यप्रदेश में विभिन्न तेल कम्पनियों द्वारा स्थापित पेट्रोल/एच एस डी के लिए फटकर पम्पों की कुल संख्या निम्नलिखित है :—

जिलों के नाम	आई ओ सी	आई बी पी	एच पी सी	काल्टैक्स	बर्मा शैल
पश्चिम निमार		1	.		..
इदौर . .	2	..	.	.	..
भोपाल . .	2	..		.	..
रायपुर . .	1	..	.		..
बसतार . .	2	.	..	1	.
रतलाम . .	2	..	.	.	..
ग्वालियर . .	4	..	.	..	..
भीन्द . .	1	..	..	.	..
मंदसौर . .	1	2	.	..	..
जबलपुर . .	1	..	..	..	..
पूर्व निमार . .	1	..	..	..	..
होशनगाबाद .	2	..	..	..	..
दुर्ग . .	..	..	1	..	..
कुल .	19	3	1	1	..

एच पी सी और काल्टैक्स के बारे में सूचना वित्तीय वर्ष के आधार पर और अन्य तेल कम्पनियों के लिए कैलेंडर वर्ष के आधार पर है ।

Explored oil wells which are lying idle

7085. SHRI M. S. PURTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about explored oil wells which are lying idle in the country;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for the exploration of oil deposits therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the wells are allowed to remain closed for one of the following reasons:—

(i) In the case of a newly drilled well, there is a certain unavoidable time lag between the drilling of the well and its final production. These wells are progressively connected to the oil field installations subject to the priorities assigned.

(ii) A few wells, either on account of depretion of pressure after producing for some time or on account of low productivity, are closed till such time that their productivity can be augmented by installing artificial lift and by carrying out stimulation.

(iii) In a few cases where new deposits are discovered in an isolated area, far away from nearly production facilities, the well(s) have to be closed till the setting up of additional production facilities etc.

(c) Steps are being taken to the entent possible to put the wells on production as soon as possible by connecting the wells to the oil field installations, if necessary, after augmenting productivity by well stimulation methods etc.

Progress of Madras-Trivellore Rail electrification project

7086. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras-Trivellore Rail electrification project was inaugurated on 24th November, 1973 by the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Karunanidhi;

(b) if so, what is the progress of work in this project;

(c) how long will it take to be completed; and

(d) whether Government are aware of the fact that Madras-Trivellore Section serves the three Railway workshops and in view of this whether Government propose to complete it within the scheduled period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SNGH): (a) Yes

(b) 3%.

(c) and (d) The work will be progressed depending upon the availability of financial resources.

Restoration of lines dismantled during pre-independence days

7087. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railway lines which have not been restored after they were dismantled during the pre-Indepeadence days, zone-wise;

(b) whether there is any plan for their restoration;

(c) if so, the likely time by which each one of them is planned for restoration; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) Dismantled lines not yet restored are as under:—

S.No.	Name of Line	Railway
1	Durwha-Pusad	Central
2	Cinnamara-Titabar	Northest Frontier
3	Gosaigaon-Kakilamukh	Do.
4	Moranhat-Khowang	Do.
5	Behramghat-Burhwal	Northern
6	Burhwal-Barabanki	Do.
7	Cocanda (Kakinada) Kotipalli	South Central
8	Morappur-Hosur	Southern
9	Tirpattur-Krishnagiri	Do.
10	Raipur Forest Tramway	South Eastern
11	Madhoganj-Auhadpur	Northern
12	Nirmali-Saraigarh	Northest Frontier
13	Pratapganj-Bhimnagar	Do.

(b) to (d) As a result of development of alternate means of transport and because of stringent financial position it has not been possible to take up the restoration work on these lines at present although surveys for some lines have been completed

Recommendation of Hathi committee regarding progress of drug industry

7088. SHRI BHALUBHAI PARMAR. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state·

(a) what are the recommendations made by the Hathi Committee in respect of item (1) of the Terms of Reference rearding proregss of the industry and the status achieved by it;

(b) whether a sub-committee was appointed to discuss the matter at length; who were the Members and what were recommendations of the sub-committee; and

(c) whether there was great difference between the first draft of recommendations and the final paper and whether the changes were made by official members unilaterally; if so, reasons for doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K R GANESH). (a) to (c) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

Ernakulam-Alleppy Railway line for 1975-76 Programme of Southern Railway

7089. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ernakulam-Alleppy Railway line has been included in the Southern Railway's works programme for 1975-76;

(b) whether the State Government has offered the required land and wooden sleepers free of cost; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and in such circumstances whether Government propose to take necessary steps to persue the Southern Railway to finalise the alignment work of the above line ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Yes; the State Government have agreed to provide Government land and sleepers free of cost.

(c) A survey for the line will be taken up shortly.

Treatment of Railway workers of Railway Canteens as Railway Employees

7090. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a final decision has been taken in the matter of treating the workers of Railway canteens covered by the provisions of Factories Act, as Railway employees;

(b) if so, whether the judgment of the Calcutta High Court in Civil Appeal No. 941 of 1973 delivered on 16th July, 1974 has been taken into consideration while taking a decision; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) and (c) In terms of the extent orders which are based on the advice of the Ministry of Labour, employees of the canteens covered by the Factories Act are not treated as Government employees. The question to treat them as such is being examined by that Ministry in consultation with the Ministry of Law. After a final decision is taken in the matter by the Ministry of Labour, this Ministry would duly examine the change, if any required in the existing status of canteen employees taking into consideration the judgement of the Calcutta High Court.

उत्तर रेलवे में रेडियो ग्राफर के पदों का भरा जाना

7091. **श्री भारत सिंह चौहान** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान बीकानेर, रेवाड़ी, डूडला, अमृतसर, जोधपुर, फिरोजपुर, दिल्ली और लखनऊ के रेलवे अस्पतालों में कितनी एक्स-रे ली गई और इनमें से कौन-कौन से स्थानों पर निम्न वेतनमान के टैक्नीशियन काम कर रहे है और निम्न वेतनमान के पदों का दर्जा कब तक बढाया जायेगा , और रेलवे अस्पताल, अमृतसर के एक्स-रे टेक्नीशियन के पद का दर्जा कब तक बढाया जायेगा, और

(ख) क्या रेल सेवा आयोग मे मेडिकल विभाग, उत्तर रेलवे के लिये रेडियोग्राफर के दो पदों का विज्ञापन निकाला है और यदि हा, तो उत्तर रेलवे का सी० एम० आफिसर किस अधिकार से बीकानेर और इलाहाबाद के (गैर-तकनीकी) पदों को भर रहा है ?

रेल मंत्रालय मे उप मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) :

(क) एक विवरण सलग्न है जिसमे 1972–73, 1973-74 और 1974-75 मे बीकानेर, रेवाड़ी, डूडला, अमृतसर, जोधपुर, फिरोजपुर, दिल्ली और लखनऊ के रेलवे अस्पतालों मे किये गये एक्स-रे की सख्या दी गयी है। इस विवरणमे वे ग्रेड भी दिये गये है जिनमे ये पद प्रवर्तित किये जा रहे है। श्रेणी III सवर्ग को ग्रेड ऊचा करने पर भी अभी विचार किया जा रहा है। अमृतसर मे एक्सरे तकनीशियनों को ऊचे ग्रेड देने का अविशिष्ठ मामला भी विचाराधीन है।

(ख) जी हा। रेल सेवा आयोग ने वर्तमान रिक्तियों के कारण उच्चतर ग्रेडों में रेडियोग्राफरों के दो पदों के लिए विज्ञापन दिया है। रेल सेवा आयोग से नामावली प्राप्त होने तक रेलवे द्वारा काम चलाने के लिए स्थानीय व्यवस्था की जा रही है।

विवरण

	बीकानेर	रेवाडी	टूंडला	अमृतसर	जोधपुर	फिरोजपुर	दिल्ली	लखनऊ
(क) लिये गये एक्मरे की संख्या								
1972-73 .	2471	163	321	1489	4164	4056	5669	10262 (72-73)
1973-74 .	2916	534	515	1332	4415	2505	6001	8427 (73-74)
1974-75 .	2098	69	67	2048	4739	2926	3441	2900 (74-75)
(ख) एक्मरेटेक्नीशियन	उच्चतर ग्रेड	उच्चतर ग्रेड	निचला ग्रेड	उच्चतर ग्रेड	उच्चतर ग्रेड	उच्चतर ग्रेड	उच्चतर ग्रेड	उच्चतर ग्रेड

Supply of Oil to Nepal

7092 SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantity of oil and at what price has it been supplied to Nepal during the last three years and

(b) whether the supplies were made out of the domestic quota or were arranged specially on behalf of Nepal from Arab States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P MAJHI) (a) It will not be in the public interest to disclose this information

(b) Until 1974, supplies to Nepal were made out of our own availability Some quantities of petroleum products were however, imported by Nepal direct in 1974 and handed over to IOC to cover their additional requirements No supplies were however made from these imports during 1974 From January 1975, supplies to Nepal are being made by IOC on product exchange basis, against imports arranged by the Nepal Oil Corporation.

Drilling of Oil Wells in Tamil Nadu

7093 SHRI S. A MURUGANANTHAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) which are the oil wells being drilled at present in Tamil Nadu and what is the present stage of drilling; and

(b) which are the new wells proposed to be taken up for drilling during the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P MAJHI): (a) At present a well at Mandapam is being drilled in Tamil Nadu State The well had been drilled down to a depth of 600 mts as on 14-4-1975

(b) Drilling of two wells, one each at Karnikal and Tiruthaipalpundi will be taken up during the current financial year.

Corruption among ticket checking staff of S. E. Railway

7094 SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any ticket checking staff has been detected as having indulged

in corruption in S. E. Railway in 1974-75; and

(b) what is the amount collected from ticketless travellers in S. E. Railway in that period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No case of ticket checking staff as having indulged in corruptions has been established from April, 1974 to January, 1975.

(b) The amount realised from the ticketless travellers during that period is as follows :—

(i) Fare & Excess charge Rs. 18,97,827/-

(ii) Judicial fine Rs. 44,221/-

Resignation of Director General, Maruti Private Limited

7095. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shrimati Sonia Gandhi has resigned from the post of the Director General of the Maruti Private Limited in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA) : (a) and (b) There is no company by the name of "Maruti Private Limited" registered under the Companies Act in Delhi. There is, however, a public Limited company by the name of "Maruti Limited". According to the records available with the Registrar of Companies, Delhi & Haryana, Shrimati Sonia Gandhi has never been a Director of this company. The records do not show that there has ever been a Director General for this Company.

Expansion of assets by 50 Industrial Giants

7096. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of 50 top industrial giants and their assets expansion during the last three years; and

(b) what is the assets expansion of public sector units during the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) According to the study conducted in the Department, the 50 top companies ranked according to the size of their assets registered under the Companies Act recorded an increase in their total assets of Rs. 762.8 crores in 1972-73 and Rs. 882.1 crores (relating to 45 companies) in 1973-74. The particulars as regards their names registered addresses and value of assets are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9488/75*].

26 companies amongst them were Government companies and they recorded a growth in their assets of Rs. 607.3 crores in 1972-73 and Rs. 692.9 crores (relating to 21 companies) in 1973-74.

Contracts Signed by E.I.L. with Foreign Countries

7097. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the brief particulars of contracts signed by Engineers India Limited with foreign countries; and

(b) what kind of check or supervision is exercised by his Ministry to ensure that the foreign assignments are completed according to schedule to the satisfaction of concerned foreign Goveinmnets ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) A statement showing the particulars of contracts signed by Engineers India Ltd. is attached.

(b) The contracts are for technical Services entered into by Engineers India Ltd. with foreign parties and not with foreign Governments. Engineers India take adequate steps to ensure that the foreign assignments are completed according to schedule. Government does not exercise any day to day supervision over the Company's work. There is, however, a Government Director on the Board of the E.I.L Besides, Government also watches the working of the Company through periodical performance review meeting.

Statement

Engineers India Ltd have entered into contracts in the following countries for the assignments indicated against each :

(i) *Iran.*—(a) For providing detailed engineering and procurement services for the National Iranian Oil Company's Shiraz Refinery through Snam Progetti of Italy.

(b) For providing detailed engineering and procurement services for another petroleum refinery for NIOC at Tabriz in Iran through Snam Progetti

(ii) *Syria.*—For consultancy services in respect of the maintenance and inspection of equipment of Oil Refinery at Homs, Syrian Arab Republic through UNIDO Vienna (Austria)

(iii) *Netherlands.*—EIL provided assistance to M/s. Lummus Company, the Hague, on thermal design of heat exchangers.

(iv) *German Democratic Republic* — For import of R-1040 system Computer and for export of Software to the Buero Maschinen Export Gmbh, Berlin

(v) *Sri Lanka*—For providing consultancy services to Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, Colombo in respect of maintenance of their petroleum refinery.

(vi) *Iran.*—For providing assistance in design, engineering and construction of project in the field of petroleum refining, petrochemicals fertilizers, etc to the following organisations:—

(a) State Consulting Company for Oil Projects; and

(b) State Organisation of Industrial Design and Construction.

Damage to Taj Mahal by sulphur dioxide emitted by Mathura Refinery.

7098. SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'The Indian Express' dated 24th March, 1975 wherein serious apprehensions have been expressed that the sulphur dioxide emitted by the Mathura Refinery may damage and discolour the Taj Mahal which is only 40 miles away from the Refinery;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken steps to have the issue seriously probed into by the eminent scientists of our country and by those abroad if necessary; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P. MAJHI) : (a) Government have seen the news item.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating the measures being taken to check the effect of effluents to be discharged by Mathura Refinery on Taj Mahal and other historical monuments is enclosed

Statement

(b) and (c) The possibility of effluents from the Mathura Refinery affecting the surroundings and particularly the Taj Mahal and other monuments at Agra and Mathura has been under very close examination by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and the Indian Oil Corporation in consultation with the National Committee on Environmental Planning and Coordination, the Indian Standards Institution, the Central Public Health Engineering Research Institute etc. The Indian Oil Corporation is including in the design of the refinery special facilities so that hazards on account of pollution are eliminated.

2. The Department of Meteorology is collecting extensive data to determine

the weather conditions at Mathura to enable the I. O. C. to design the facilities needed for treating the gaseous effluents. Normally, these effluents are not expected to pose serious hazards if they are let out at a high level in the atmosphere and the weather conditions are such that the gases are freely dispersed in the atmosphere. In any case built-in facilities for removal of Sulphur Dioxide would be added to the Refinery Design as a measure of abundent precaution.

3. To advise the project authorities continuously on the measures to be taken for keeping the pollution effect of Mathura Refinery on Taj Mahal and other historical monuments to the absolute minimum, an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr S Varadarajan, Chairman, I. P. C. L has been constituted Representatives from the Department of Meteorology, National Committee on Environmental Pollution Control, National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Indian Institute of Petroleum and Government of Uttar Pradesh have been included in the Expert Committee. Representatives from other organisations e g. Department of Archaeology, Indian Standards Institution etc. are also being invited to the Committees meetings as and when considered necessary.

4 Indian Oil Corporation propose to take the assistance of Messrs Tecneco of Italy to conduct further studies on the anti-pollution measures to be taken with the association of the Department of Meteorology, M/s. Tecneco, which is a subsidiary of the Italian Government owned E N.I Group and which is dealing with pollution and its control, have also been associated by the Italian Government with the pollution abatement measures taken by them.

5. Consideration is also being given to the processing of some quantities of the low sulphur crude from the Bombay High at the Mathura refinery in addition to imported crude, so that the pollution effect is minimised. All possible measures would be taken to ensure that the refinery gases do not have any harmful effects on the Taj Mahal and other historical monuments.

Pay scales of different categories of Railway Employees

7099. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 4857 on the 17th December, 1974 regarding pay scales of different categories of Railway employees and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) There was no uniformity in respect of scales of pay of different categories of Railway staff employed in the constituting units at time of nationalisation of Railways. Scales differed from Railway to Railway. It was only after introduction of standard scales of pay recommended by various Pay Commissions appointed by the Government from time to time that uniformity was achieved. A statement showing the standard scales allotted to these categories of staff in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Commissions is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9489/75*].

(c) Does not arise.

Installation of closed circuit Television at Railway Stations

7100. SHRI RAM PRAKASH :
SHRI BHAGIRATH BHANWAR :
SHRI DHAMANKAR :
SHRI G Y. KRISHNAN :
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :
SHRI VASANT SATHE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the New Delhi Railway Station is being fitted with closed circuit television;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to install closed circuit televisions at other important railway station like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras also and if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes Close circuit television has been commissioned at New Delhi Railway Station on 15-4-1975.

(b) It is meant primarily for displaying audio visual information regarding arrival and departure of trains and social education to passengers Spare time available will be utilised for commercial advertisements.

(c) Close circuit television has already been installed at Madras Central

There are no concrete proposals, at present, for installation of closed circuit television at Bombay and Calcutta.

Indigenous manufacture of Methoxychlor

7101. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI:
SHRI D D DESAI .

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has any knowledge regarding the development of indigenous know-how for manufacturing of Methoxychlor, a better substitute for DDT; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any measures to make use of it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K R. GANESH): (a) and (b) Regional Research Laboratory, Hyderabad, has recently developed know-how for production of Methoxychlor to the extent of 5 Kg. per batch and it has been released to the sponsoring party for its commercial exploitation.

It is reported that Methoxychlor is better than DDT because of its lower oral and Dermal LD 50 values as compared to DDT. However, Methoxychlor is not effective for controlling out-door larva and adult mosquitoes whereas DDT is effective and has good knock-down effect on all stages of mosquitoes. The agricultural experts are of the view that being safe Methoxychlor can be taken as a good substitute for DDT.

Regarding offer of technology my M/s Pfizers for production of Tetracycline

7102 SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE:

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1159 on 25th February, 1975 regarding negotiations with Pfizers for securing technology to manufacture certain drugs and state

(a) whether Government have agreed to accept the offer of technology and terms thereof made by M/s Pfizers for the manufacture of tetracycline; and

(b) if so, the reasons and broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K R. GANESH) . (a) and (b) The offer of technology by M/s Pfizer Limited, Bombay for improving the production of Tetracycline and Oxytetracycline and for the manufacture of Doxycycline by IDPL is free of charge and has been made in the context of their request for (i) regularisation of their excess capacity for oxytetracycline and (ii) grant of industrial licence for manufacture of 5 tonnes of doxycycline. Taking an overall view it has been decided to reject the offer made by M/s. Pfizers.

Release of foreign exchange for MTP (Railway) Calcutta

7103. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is unwilling to release small foreign exchange to be required during the phased programme of execution relating to MTP (Railways) Calcutta;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being proposed to clear the foreign exchange problem immediately; and

(d) whether the Planning Commission has already sanctioned the foreign exchange requirements of the M. T. P. (Railways) if so, details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Individual releases of small amounts of foreign exchange can be decided only in the light of the overall arrangements in regard to foreign exchange that may be arrived at.

(c) As the import requirements of the Metropolitan Transport Project (Railways) Calcutta involve substantial amounts of foreign exchange, the Government is actively considering the coverage of these requirements from suitable credit sources to the maximum extent possible, subject to sufficient rupee resources being made available for the Project.

(d) Foreign exchange requirements are to be sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance. The present position in this regard is inidicated under (c) above.

Railway projects for construction on Western Railway

7104. SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) how many rail projects in the Western Railway are under construction; and

(b) the details and the latest position of these projects ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The details of the projects under construction in the Western Railway are as follows :—

Name of the line, length, gauge	Cost (Rs. in crores)	Present position
1. Guna-Maksi New line (193 Kms.; B.G.)	10.51	Work is in progress and is likely to be completed by 31-3-76. Over-all physical progress achieved up-to-date is 94.0%.
2. Sabarmati-Gandhinagar New line (30 Kms.; B.G.)	2.85	Work is in progress and is likely to be completed by 31-12-75. Over-all physical progress achieved up-to-date is 68%.
3. Viramgam-Okha/Porbandar M. G. to B.G. conversion (556.97 Kms.)	42.93	Work is progressing at a restricted pace on account of the limited availability of funds. The target date of completion will have to be revised and will depend upon the availability of funds for the project from year to year. Over-all physical progress achieved on this work up-to-date is 35%.

Research and development cells of private drug units

7105. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) how many private sector drug manufacturing units have their own R & D cells and the facilities provided by them for carrying on the work;

(b) what is the expenditure earmarked for this purpose and what it represents as percentage of their yearly turnover, during the last three years;

(c) the success achieved in inventing new drugs or formulations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the list of research and development units of the private sector recognised by the Department of Science and Technology is attached. Capital expenditure incurred by some of the major research units and their turnover during the last three years is as follows :—

S. No.	Name of the unit	Capital expenditure	Total turnover 1971/1971-72	1972/1972-73	1973/1973 1974
1	2	3	4	5	6
		(Rs. lakhs)			
1	Ciba Geigy of India	Rs. 310 lakhs (upto 31-12-74)	2,266	2,620	3,122
2	Hoechst Pharmaceuticals Ltd	1971 Rs. 30.34 lakhs 1972 Rs. 4 60 lakhs 1973 Rs. 9 30 lakhs	1,479	1,833	2,172
3	Sarabhai M. Chemical,	Rs 26 51 lakhs (upto 30-6-1973)	384 47	422.58	481.33 (prov)

(c) M/s Ciba of India Ltd, Bombay have developed a new antidepresant drug namely smtamil and the company have already obtained a letter of intent for its commercial exploitation. Information with regard to others is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

S No. *Name of the firm and address*

1. Bengal Immunity Research Institute, Calcutta.
2. Chemical Industries and Pharmaceuticals Laboratory, Bombay.
3. Ciba Geigy of India, Bombay.
4. Dey's Medical Stores (Mfg) Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta.
5. The Fairdeal Corporation (P) Ltd., Bombay.
6. Glaxo Laboratories (India) Ltd., Bombay.
7. Hoechst Pharmaceutical Ltd, Bombay.
8. India Detonators Ltd, Hyderabad.
9. Nitson Laboratories, Thana
10. Organon India Ltd., Calcutta.
11. Ranbaxy Laboratories (P) Ltd., New Delhi.
12. Raptakos Prett and Co. Ltd., Bombay
13. Richardson Hindustan Ltd., Thana.
14. Sandoz India Ltd., Bombay.
15. Sarabhai & Chemicals private Ltd., Baroda.
16. Sarabhai Research Centre, Baroda.
17. Searle (India) Ltd., Thana.
18. Symbiotics Ltd., Baroda.

19. Unichem Laboratories, Bombay.
20. Wyeth Labs. Ltd., Bombay.
21. Rallis India Ltd., Bombay.
22. Sunesta Laboratories (P) Ltd., Indore.
23. Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd., Baroda.
24. Cadila Laboratories, Maninagar, Ahmedabad.
25. Chowgule & Co. (Hind) Private Ltd., Bombay.
26. Boots Co. (India) Ltd., Bombay.
27. Calcutta Chemical Co. Ltd., Calcutta.
28. Dia-Ichi Karkaria Ltd., Bombay.
29. Ahura Chemicals Products (P) Ltd., Bombay
30. Chemosin (P) Ltd., Bombay.
31 Haffkine Institute, Bombay.

राष्ट्रीय तथा जोनल रेलवे प्रयोक्ता सलाहकार) समिति पर व्यय

7106. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राष्ट्रीय तथा जोनल रेलवे प्रयोक्ता परिषदों/समितियों की कुल संख्या कितनी है तथा उनके कुल कितने सदस्य हैं तथा रेलवे ने वर्ष 1973 और 1974 के दौरान उनके प्रशासनिक व्यय तथा भत्तों पर कुल कितना धन व्यय किया है, और

(ख) क्या रेलवे बोर्ड इन समितियों द्वारा लिए गए निर्णयों को लागू करने के लिए बाध्य है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) एक विवरण संलग्न है जिस में अपेक्षित सूचना दी गयी है।

(ख) राष्ट्रीय रेल उपयोगकर्ता परामर्श परिषद और क्षेत्रीय रेलवे उपयोगकर्ता परामर्श समितियां सलाहकार के रूप में कार्य करती हैं। परिषद्/समितियों की सिफारिशों पर समुचित विचार किया जाता है।

विवरण

क्रम संख्या	परिषद्/समिति का विवरण	चालू सत्र (1974-76) के लिए कुल सदस्य	वर्ष के दौरान हुआ कुल खर्च	
			1972-73	1973-74
1	राष्ट्रीय रेलवे उपयोगकर्ता परामर्श परिषद	अभी तक पुनर्गठित नहीं की गयी	क्यों कि परिषद ने कार्य नहीं किया इसलिए कोई खर्च नहीं हुआ	
2	क्षेत्रीय रेलवे उपयोगकर्ता परामर्श समितियां		रुपये*	
	मध्य रेलवे	58	1830.00	3965.00
	पूर्व	64	2172.12	2297.28
	उत्तर	97	8266 11	10348.10
	पूर्वोत्तर	81	2727.00	4602.00
	पूर्वोत्तर-सीमा	52	2000.00	2500.00
	दक्षिण	60	4299.23	8071.12
	दक्षिण पूर्व	64	5765.76	6902.99
	दक्षिण मध्य	51	7831.00	11155 00
	पश्चिम	65	2328.00	2262.00

*ये आंकड़े कैलेन्डर वर्षों के अनुसार नहीं रखे जाते और इस में सदस्यों द्वारा बैठकों आदि में उपस्थित होने का रेल मार्ग भाड़ा शामिल नहीं है क्योंकि इसके लिए उन्हें निशुल्क पास दिये जाते हैं।

Implementation of laws enacted by Parliament

7107. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of Bills pending for the assent of the President of India;

(b) whether all laws made by the Parliament have been implemented by the Centre as well as State Governments;

(c) if not, the particulars of the Acts which have not been implemented so far and the reasons for the non-implementation thereof; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take in regard to the Bills pending and the Act already passed but not implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) No Bill passed by the Houses of Parliament is pending for the assent of the President of India.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Accumulation of stocks of uncleared coarse grains at stations in Tamil Nadu

7108. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the month of March, 1975 the Southern Railway reported accumulation of huge stocks of uncleared coarse grains at various stations in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether as many as 600 wagons and about 57,000 bags of foodgrains were awaiting clearance till the afternoon of 22nd March, 1975;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) what action was taken by the Railway Authorities to get the wagons cleared; and

(e) whether any penalty has been imposed for non-clearance of wagons for a long period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, the matter was brought to the notice of the Government of Tamil Nadu, by Southern Railway.

(b) On the afternoon of 22nd March, 1975, 55 wagons and 122706 bags of foodgrains were awaiting clearance at different stations on Southern Railway.

(c) Heavy inflow of foodgrains consignments, want of adequate storage accommodation with parties, non-availability of railway receipts negotiated through banks and non-release of the same by banks due to credit squeeze contributed to congestion in goods sheds.

(d) The matter was taken up with the officials of the Civil Supplies Corporation, District Collectors, Food Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu and local revenue officials. The trade were also specially contacted.

(e) The demurrage charges are already deterrent viz., demurrage charges on a four wheeled Broad Gauge wagon of 22.4 tonnes carrying capacity, work out to Rs. 134 40 at the end of the first 24 hours, Rs. 295.68 at the end of 48 hours and Rs. 510.72 at the end of 72 hours after the expiry of the free time. These charges were collected wherever wagons were detained beyond free time.

Production at Cochin and Durgapur Fertilizer Plants

7109. SHRI R. S. PANDEY :
SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether production at a satisfactory level has not been reached at Cochin and Durgapur Fertilizer Plants so far; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and remedial measures proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The two plants which started production in April, 1973 and October, 1973 respectively have not so far been able to stabilise production at a satisfactory level due to failure and break-down of several critical items of equipment, including imported machinery and components. Systematic efforts have been made, from time to time, to identify and overcome the various mechanical defects and other problems with a view to ensure satisfactory operations. Since these steps were not fully successful M/s. Technimont of Italy were invited to make a comprehensive end-to-end survey of the Durgapur plant with a view to identify the problems and suggest measures to enable the plants to achieve and stabilise production at near rated capacity. The end-to-end survey report has been received and appropriate action is in hand to put through the remedial and other measures considered necessary both at Durgapur and at Cochin.

Scheme to improve distribution of kerosene oil

7110. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering various schemes of improving distribution of kerosene oil in the country;

(b) if so, the broad features of the new system of distribution and when the final decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether the distribution system in Gujarat is defective and require early change; and

(d) whether the shortage of kerosene oil has been greatly felt in that State which has given rise to the faulty distribution system; if so, what was the total kerosene oil supplied to the State upto March, 1975 during the current year and what was their demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) and (b) At present allocation of Kerosene Oil to the States is done by the Central Government and actual distribution within the State is made by the State Governments.

The Government has however decided to appoint a Committee to recommend among other things measures to ensure adequate supplies of consumer products like Kerosene etc., and to reach the products as close to the consumers, particularly in the rural areas as marketing economics would allow.

(c) The matter is being ascertained from the State Government and on receipt of reply it will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) This Ministry has not received any complaints of kerosene oil shortage in Gujarat in the recent past. During the period January to March, 1975, total supplies to Gujarat State were 68525 tonnes against an allocation of 70315 tonnes.

Supersession of SC/ST and other TTEs

7111. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Ticket Collectors (grade Rs. 110-180) were promoted in July, 1972 on basis of their option, as Ticket Collectors (grade Rs. 150-240) and subsequently confirmed in that grade;

(b) whether in June, 1972 they were again allowed second option as a special case, to become T.T.E. in a Junior Grade (Rs. 130-212);

(c) whether this action gave them tripple benefit of confirmation in higher grade, subsequent appointment in a lower grade involving higher T.A. grant and claiming seniority over a large number of T.T.Es. (grade Rs. 130-212), including 25 Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons working as such since 1968; and

(d) if so, what action is proposed to set right this injustice to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other T.T.Es. superseded for no fault of theirs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Each Railway administration lays down channels of promotion for such categories in consultation with recognised Unions. On most Railways there is no option. Presumably the question relates to Northern Railway where the channel of promotion provides for options and where a change was agreed to in 1972 On this Railway the channel of promotion laid down in 1962 gave option to TCs to become either TTEs or higher grade Ticket Collectors. In 1971 it was represented by the Unions to General Manager, Northern Railway and by the N F I R. to the Railway Board, that the higher grade posts which are sanctioned on percentage basis had not been allocated between the Ticket Collecting side and the TTEs as per cadre strength and that the options taken earlier from the Ticket Collectors had been vitiated by the fact that more higher grade posts were given to the T T.Es as discussed in PNM meetings and the final decision was that since it was not administratively feasible to balance the higher grade posts, a fresh option may be given to the Ticket Collectors to become TTEs in case they felt that their prospects had been adversely affected.

(b) Yes For the reasons mentioned above they were allowed a second option

(c) The option only restored to seniors an opportunity for advancement as TTEs ahead of their juniors in future vacancies The interests of juniors promoted in vacancies which occurred prior to 28-5-1972, the date of the decision, were protected as they were not to make room for the seniors who opted under the new dispensation.

The decision was taken in respect of general candidates only Whether this has adversely affected the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is being examined.

(d) If it is found that the claims of SC and ST candidates to reserved posts has been adversely affected, necessary corrective action will be taken.

Robberies at Petrol Pumps in Delhi

7112. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of robberies at petrol pumps reported to Government during the last three years, upto 31st March, 1975, year-wise in the Union territory of Delhi;

(b) the total amount involved and the number of persons injured; and

(c) whether Government have a proposal to order for the closure of petrol pumps at night at a particular time and take action against petrol pumps violating these orders and if so, the particulars thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P. MAJHI): (a) The number of cases reported to Delhi Police are 5 in 1972, 6 in 1973, 13 in 1974 and 1 in 1975 (up to 31st March, 1975)

(b) .—

	Amount involved	Persons injured
1972	Rs. 1016 15	..
1973	Rs. 1850/-	1
1974	Rs. 7011/-	5
1975 (upto 31-3-75).	Rs. 7750/-	..

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

Expenditure incurred on Techno-Economic Survey for Hubli-Karwar Rail Link

7113. SHRI B. V. NAIK. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the expenditure incurred on the conduct of techno-economic survey of the Hubli-Karwar rail link;

(b) the gist of the results thereof; and

(c) the next programmed activity of the railway in this behalf?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Rs. 9.8 lakhs.

(b) and (c) The examination of the survey reports has revealed that the line is not likely to attract sufficient traffic and will be unremunerative. The proposal has therefore, been shelved.

Changes in Managerial Level of Pimpri Drug Unit

7114. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH GILL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decision has been taken to bring about major changes at the top managerial level in Pimpri Drug Unit;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the time by which such changes will be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c) Taking note of the declining trend of production and profitability, the Board of Directors of the Company appointed a Committee with the following terms of reference:—

> "To investigate into the working of the production, engineering and material management departments, with particular reference to the performance of the personnel and fix responsibilities for short-falls. The Committee shall meet as soon as possible and finalise its report within 30 days and the Managing Director shall place it before the Board, if necessary, by convening an emergency meeting at New Delhi".

The findings of the Committee, *inter alia*, include the following:

(1) Whereas the production and engineering Chiefs are found wanting in shouldering and discharging their responsibilities, the Committee is also aware that the failures of these officers alone cannot account for the inadequate performance of the Company's technical operations.

(2) Discipline needs to be strengthened at all levels and guilty and shirking officers and operators and other workers need to be punished promptly.

(3) A Technological Cell needs to be established immediately for establishing (a) protocols for optimum capacity utilisation; (b) monitoring performance, (c) goals of efficiency achievable and targetted, (d) flow sheets, data sheets for material balance and batch operations, equipment specifications and their duties (e) Recommendations for remedial action.

(4) The Task Force which went into the Penicillin operations has demonstrated that optimum targets or efficiency are indeed achievable in the plant even under existing conditions by rigid adherence to production/process parameters as laid down in the protocols. However, since production department has not been able to maintain these optimal targets of efficiencies, the Committee attributes responsibility for such failures to the production personnel and particularly to Superintendent, Production who is in overall charge of the department.

The Committee appointed by the Board of Directors, therefore, attributed the fall in production and profitability to several factors including bad management, lack of discipline, and problems connected with efficient operation of the plant.

On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, which were ratified by the Board of Directors, services of two officers were dispensed with. Other recommendations of the Committee are

under implementation. It is also proposed to appoint a new Managing Director and reference has been made in this regard to the public Enterprises Selection Board.

Profits earned by Assam Oil Company

7115. SHRI NOORUL HUDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the quantum of profits earned by Assam Oil company, Digboi during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): The net profit earned by the Assam Oil Company Limited during the three years is as follows:

Year	Rs./Lakhs
1971	17.69
1972	27.57
1973 . . .	48.17

These figures are provisional.

Delay in Completion of Haldia Fertilizers

7116. SHRI HARI SINGH. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the completion of Haldia fertilizers has been delayed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) A fertilizer project at Haldia with a capacity for the manufacture of 152,000 tonnes of nitrogen and 75,000 tonnes of P_2O_5 was taken up for implementation in 1972. This project which is based on fuel oil as feedstock is presently estimated to cost about Rs. 187 crores with a foreign exchange component of about Rs. 40 crores. There has been some delay in the construction of this project due mainly to the slow progress of piling work on account of labour problems and delays in the delivery of equipment. The soil conditions at Haldia necessitated the driving of about 6800 piles to meet the foundation requirements of this project. Progress in driving these piles was slow, initially due to the failure of contractors to mobilise resources to meet the requirement, wagon shortage for transporting construction material and later due mainly to labour unrest amongst the contract labour. Till the end of February 1975, only 2700 piles have been driven. Efforts are being made to expedite the piling work by the induction of additional contractors and rigs. The cooperation and assistance of the State Govt. has also been enlisted to promote and sustain industrial harmony. As a result of these efforts, the progress of piling work has improved.

The ordering of equipment for this project is nearly complete and imported equipment has started arriving at site. The fabrication and supply of equipment ordered on some of the indigenous suppliers is, however, causing concern. The Fertilizer Corporation of India is now closely following up the fabrication of equipment in the suppliers' shops in order to ensure that there is no further slippage in the delivery of these equipments. The project is now expected to be completed by October 1977.

Short Weight of certain pre-packed Cosmetics

7117. SHRI D K. PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the short weight of some pre-packed goods like soaps, cosmetics, hair oils on which net weights and measures have been marked; and

(b) what action has been taken to prevent such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) Of the items mentioned in the Question, Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals is concerned with manufacture of soap and synthetic detergents. No reports have been received in this Ministry of short weight

in pre-packed soaps and detergents. Regarding packaged commodities in general Government are contemplating a legislation to ensure conditions of packaging providing for mandatory indications regarding weight, price, date of manufacture etc.

Requirements of Ammonia Gas to produce Nitric Acid

7118. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what quantity of Ammonia gas is required to produce one tonne of nitric acid 50-53 per cent using oxidation method in presence of catalyst;

(b) whether the price of ammonia gas has been increased greatly and if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) is ammonia gas cylinder for transport, manufactured in this country and if so, comes of such units; if not locally manufactured, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the names of the countries from where ammonia gas cylinders have been imported during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) About 0.145 to 0.154 tonnes of ammonia would be required for producing a tonne of 50-53 percent nitric acid.

(b) The price of ammonia has been increased by the units concerned taking into account the increase in the cost of the various inputs, duties/levies thereon.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Occupation of Land belonging to Railways by some persons around Giddarbaha Station

7119. SHRI B. S. BHAURA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether land belonging to Railways around Giddarbaha railway station on Bhatinda-Abohar line has been occupied by some persons;

(b) if so, the names of persons who occupied the land; and

(c) whether any attempt has ever been made to get the land vacated and if so, the results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) Names of persons ascertained are Sarva Sri (1) Hans Raj, (2) Ram Chand, (3) Chand Singh, (4) Ram Nath, (5) Amin Lal, (6) Ramanand, (7) Gulchan Ram, (8) Boota Ram, (9) Mangat Ram, (10) Mittoo Ram, (11) Kundan Lal, (12) Changi Ram, (13) Banarasi Das, (14) Prabhu Dayal, (15) Shiv Lal, (16) Gurditta Ram, (17) Manghoo Ram, (18) Nanak Chand, (19) Paras Ram, (20) Kundan Lal (21) Nand Lal, (22) Mattur Ram.

(c) Proceedings under Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants Act) were initiated against the unauthorised occupants for eviction and recovery of damages. The cases were decided in favour of the Railway Administration. The Railway land was not, however, vacated as the unauthorised occupants filed an appeal in the Court of District Judge, Firozepur which was ultimately dismissed in June 1971. Subsequently the parties had obtained an injunction from the Court of Sub-Judge First Class Gidderbaha in July '72.

In the meantime the Municipal Committee Gidderbaha had requested the Railway administration that this land be relinquished to them without evicting the encroachers.

It has now been decided to relinquish this Railway land to the Municipal Committee, Gidderbaha along with the encroachments.

Shortage of P.V.C. Compounds

7120. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of P.V.C. compounds in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated shortfall as per requirements; and

(c) the steps Government have proposed to improve indigenous production to meet the shortage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI). (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Names of Towns served by former S.S. Light Railway and New B.G. Line

7121. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the towns served by the former Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway; and

(b) the names of the towns that will be served by the construction of new broad gauge line already approved by Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Towns served by former S S. Light Railways were Delhi, Shahdara, Bagpat Road, Barauf, Kandla, Shamli, Thana Bhavan, Rampur Maniharan, Saharanpur.

(b) The same towns as stated above will be served by the new B G. line.

Creation of Post of Rail Transportation Coordinator at Bhubaneshwar

7122. SHRI ARJUN SETHI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Orissa State Assembly passed a unanimous resolution on 6th April, 1972 and later on a memorandum incorporating the said unanimous resolution was submitted to the ex-Minister of Railways by the ex-Chief Minister and by the ex-Governor of Orissa for shifting in phases the headquarters of the South Eastern Railway and creation of Rail Transportation Coordinator at Bhubaneshwar in the rank of Deputy General Manager to maintain close liaison with the State Government; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal for shifting of the headquarters of the South Eastern Railway from Calcutta could not be agreed to on administrative, operational and financial considerations. As regards creation of the post of a Rail Transportation Co-ordinator, the State Government of Orissa was advised that such a post in the rank of a Deputy General Manager (who may be designated as Director, Rail Transportation) may be created in the State Government's cadre for liaison purposes with the Railways at Bhubaneshwar. The Railways would, however, spare the services of an experienced Railway Officer, on deputation basis, to man the post if the State Government so desires, but the Orissa Government will have to bear the entire cost of the proposed rail coordination Directorate. No further reply has been received from the State Government in this connection

Japanese Assistance for Panipat Fertilizer Project

7123 SHRI PROBODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Japan has agreed to extend assistance to India for Panipat Fertilizer Project, and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An agreement for Y. 11 billion (equivalent to Rs. 29·8 crores at the exchange rate of Yen 3960 = Rs. 100) has been signed with the Export-Import Bank of Japan for financing the foreign exchange cost of this project

for import of goods and services from Japan. The Loan which is repayable in 25 years (including a grace period of 7 years) carries an interest at 4% per annum.

Proposal to Purchase Technology for Manufacturing Drugs

7124. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goverament are contemplating to go in for an outright purchase of technology in foreign market for the manufacture of drugs;

(b) whether a central agency is going to be set up for the purpose of development of technology; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c) The purchase and induction of know-how in respect of new drugs are allowed by the Government to drug manufacturing units on merits of each case. The necessity for import of technology is screened by various technical experts, including those from DGTD, CSIR, DSCCI, Ministry of Finance and others before a project for foreign collaboration for transfer of technology is approved by the Government The payments for purchase of know-how may involve a lumpsum payment, minority equity participation, or/and a payment of royalty depending upon the need and priority to be assigned for technology involved.

The Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry which submitted its report on the 6th April, 1975 have looked into various aspects of drug industry including the examination of the present arrangements for the flow of new technology into the industry. Government will take a view on the question of setting up a Central agency in the totality of the recommendations of the Committee.

IOWs on Deputation to Eastern Railway

7125. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of IOWs (Inspectors of Works) in the Eastern Railway who are on deputation from Northern Railway and since how many years they are in Eastern Railway;

(b) number of those I.O.Ws who are from Northern Railway but still posted in construction Division of Eastern Railway; and

(c) the reasons in details as to why they are not being transferred back to Northern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Only one, since October, 1967.

(b) One.

(c) The I.O.W. has not yet been declared surplus by the Eastern Railway.

C.B.I. Enquiry into case of earthwork for Muzaffarpur-Sonepore Railway Line (North Eastern Railway)

7126. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that CBI is enquiring into the corruption case connected with the earth work for the construction of Muzaffarpur-Sonepore Broad Gauge Line on North Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, how much amount is involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Bureau of Investigation (Special Police Establishment, Patna Branch) have registered a Preliminary Enquiry in connection with alleged overpayment to a contractor in respect of the earthwork done for conversion of the Metre Gauge Line into Broad Gauge Line between Muzaffarpur and Sonepore. The case is still under investigation.

गत वर्ष ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में यात्री गाड़ियों तथा स्थानीय शटल गाड़ियों को समाज विरोधी तत्वों द्वारा पहुंचाई गई क्षति

7127. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत वर्ष ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों मे यात्री गाडियों और स्थानीय शटल गाड़ियों को समाज विरोधी तत्वों द्वारा पहुचाई गई क्षति के बारे में सरकार ने कोई मूल्यांकन किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितनी क्षति पहुचाई गई ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह): (क) और (ख) सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Trade Union Officials of Railwaymen Victimised for participating in May 1974 Strike

7128 SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of trade union officials of the unions of railwaymen on all the zones of Railways have been victimised for participation in the May, 1974 railwaymen's strike;

(b) whether the provisions of the Industrial Relations Act for giving protection to the trade union officials have been ignored; and

(c) if so, the number of trade union officials who have been dismissed on each of the Railway zone for participation in May, 1974 railwaymen's strike?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) It has never been the policy of the Government to victimise its employees for legitimate trade union activities. However, for indulging in acts of violence, sabotage and intimidation during illegal strike in May, 1974 action under appropriate rules was taken as a result of which some employees irrespective of the fact whether they were office bearers of a trade union or not were dismissed/removed from service. The number of office bearers of recognised trade unions who are out of service is about 150, at present.

Trains arrived at or departed from Delhi Main Station during January and February 1975

7129. SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of trains that reached Delhi Main Junction during January and February, 1975; and

(b) the number of trains that arrived or departed late and the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) A total of 4515 trains arrived Delhi Main Junction during January and February '75 of which 2203 trains reached late and 450 departed late from this station. The late arrivals and departures were for various reasons such as alarm chain pulling/miscreant activities, mechanical/signal failures, crossings and precedences etc. etc.

Shortfall in estimated requirements of New Railway Wagons for 1974-75

7130. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there will be a shortfall in the estimated requirements of new railway wagons for 1974-75; and

(b) whether wagon orders on West Bengal firms have been reduced as a result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

BUTA SINGH): (a) There has been no shortfalls.

(b) None of the orders previously placed has been cancelled or reduced.

रेलवे द्वारा जयपुर की एक फर्म से घटिया किस्म के बियरिंग की खरीद

7131. श्री लालजी भाई : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार ने रेलवे के लिये 1974 में नेशनल इंजीनियरिंग कम्पनी, जयपुर से कितने लाख रुपयों के बियरिंग खरीदें ;

(ख) क्या ये बियरिंग घटिया किस्म के थे, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस कम्पनी के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) नेशनल इंजीनियरिंग कम्पनी, जयपुर नाम की किसी फर्म से बेयरिंगों की खरीद नहीं की गयी । लेकिन मसर्स नेशनल इंजीनियरिंग इंडस्ट्रीज, जयपुर से 1974 से रेलों के लिए खरीदे गये बेयरिंगों का मूल्य 132 लाख रुपये था ।

(ख) खराब काम के सम्बन्ध मे कोई शिकायत नहीं मिली है ।

(ग) उपर्युक्त (ख) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Disposal of Railway Lines in Palaces of Ex-Rulers

7132. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether quite a large quantity of metre gauge, broad gauge and narrow gauge railway lines from the Gwalior Palace were dismantled and sold out;

(b) the total of railway lines that were there in the Gwalior Palace and the extent to which these have been dismantled and sold out;

(c) the steps taken by Government after receiving the said information; and

(d) the measures taken to stop their further dismantling and selling out and the policy of Government in regard to the disposal of railway lines in palaces of ex-Rulers in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Information was received from Madhya Pradesh Government in February, 1973 that the railway siding from the Gwalior Palace compound to Gwalior station was sold out by the ex-ruler and was being removed by the contractor.

(b) According to the plans available with the Central Railway the total length of the siding was about 1890 metres approximately. This siding was situated partly within the palace premises and partly outside palace premises. The length of Broad gauge-*cum*-Narrow gauge track within the palace compound was, according to the plan about 566 metres. There was no MG track inside the palace compound. The actual quantities of the dismantled materials both from within the palace premises and outside palace premises are being verified by the Central Railway in consultation with the Madhya Pradesh Government.

(c) After receipt of this information the question of ownership of the siding was gone into and it was decided to treat the portion of the siding lying within the palace compound as the private property of the ex-ruler and the portion lying outside the palace compound as Govrnement property. In the meantime, Madhya Pradesh Government had advised that police guard had been mounted around the compound in which dismantled materials were stored to prevent further disposal of these materials.

(d) Steps have been initiated in coordination with the Madhya Pradesh Government to claim and retrieve the dismantled materials pertaining to the portion of the railway siding situated outside the palace compound, which are deemed to be the Government property.

The Government policy in such cases is generally to treat the portion of the railway siding falling within the palace compound as the property of the ex-ruler and such portion of the railway siding situated outside the palace compound as Government property unless it was also recognised as the private property of the ex-ruler in the inventory of the private properties drawn up at the time of the Merger.

Claims pending on North-eastern Frontier Railway

7133. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total number of claims in respect of damages, pilferages and losses of goods in transit still pending in North-eastern Frontier Railway and the amount involved in these claims; and

(b) number of claims pending for the last three years, two years and one year, separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Total number of claims for compensation in respect of damages, pilferages and losses of goods in transit pending disposal on the North-east Frontier Railway as on 31-3-1975 was 7089, the amount claimed being Rs 485.94 lakhs.

(b) Nil.

Permission given to companies for issue of Bonus Shares during 1972, 1973 and 1974

7134. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the Monopoly Commission's report and state:

(a) which of the companies belonging to the monopoly groups mentioned in the report have been given permission to issue bonus shares in the year 1972, 1973 and 1974;

(b) the reasons for permitting this; and

(c) whether this has not resulted in accelerating the rate of concentration of wealth and assets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS, (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) to (c) It was stated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4758 in the House on the 25th March, 1975 that no list on the basis of the definition of the Monopolies Inquiry Commission Report is required to be or is being maintained in the Department of Company Affairs. Under the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969, only a list of interconnected undertakings and dominant undertakings as envisaged in section 20 of the said Act, is being maintained.

The Ministry of Finance are incharge of the administration of the Capital Issues (Control) Act, 1947 and, therefore, are responsible for the grant of permission for issue of bonus shares. That Ministry is being requested to furnish the necessary information to the House, listing the companies to whom approval for the issue of bonus shares has been issued, grouping them on the pattern of the list of companies prepared by the Monopolies Inquiry Commission (1965).

गार्डों की मांगों का पूरा किया जाना

7135. श्री नागेश्वर द्विवेदी: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत वर्ष की अखिल भारतीय रेलवे गार्ड हड़ताल सरकार द्वारा आश्वासन दिये जाने पर समाप्त हुई थी ;

(ख) गार्डों की मुख्य मांगे क्या थी ;

(ग) हड़ताल समाप्त करने के लिये क्या आश्वासन दिया गया था; और

(घ) आश्वासनों को अब तक पूरा करने में क्या रुकावटें आईं और उन्हें कब तक पूरा किया जायेगा ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) से (ग) गार्डों ने अपनी

मांगों के समर्थन में, मुख्य रूप से अधिक अच्छे वेतनमानों के लिए और डाक्टरी दृष्टि से विकोटीकृत गार्डों को खपाने के लिए 15 मार्च, 1974 से जो 'वर्क-टू-रुल' आन्दोलन चलाया था वह तत्कालीन रेल उपमंत्री के साथ विचार-विमर्श करने के बाद, श्री आर० पी० यादव तथा गार्ड परिषद् के कुछ अन्य नेताओं द्वारा लिये गये निर्णय के फलस्वरूप समाप्त हो गया था। इन विचार-विमर्शों में यह मान लिया गया था कि गार्डों के वेतनमानों में विसंगतियों की जांच की जायेगी और उन्हें समुचित रूप से दूर किया जायेगा, उन्हें तंग नहीं किया जायेगा और यह कि गार्ड परिषद् ने मान्यता-प्राप्ति की मांग नहीं की थी बल्कि अपनी उचित शिकायतों के निवारण की ही मांग की थी।

(घ) संयुक्त परामर्श तंत्र की योजना के अधीन स्थापित विसंगति समिति अब उन विसंगतियों की जांच कर रही है जो तीसरे वेतन आयोग की सिफारिशों के फलस्वरूप पैदा हो गयी हैं। इस समिति में भारतीय रेल कर्मियों की दो मान्यता प्राप्त फेडरेशनों को प्रतिनिधित्व प्राप्त है। डाक्टरी दृष्टि से विकोटीकृत कर्मचारियों को खपाने का प्रश्न पहले से ही रेल दर अधिकरण, 1971 के समक्ष है और अधिकरण की रिपोर्ट की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है।

Maharashtra Government's views on priorities on Konkan Railway and Underground Railway for Bombay

7136. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has sent its views regarding priorities in the case of the Konkan Railway Project and the Underground Railway project in Bombay;

(b) if so, to which project does the Maharashtra Government want the priority to be accorded; and

(c) what is the final decision of Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Demurrage paid by U.P. Electricity Board to Railways

7137. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether U. P. State Electricity Board is paying heavily as demurrage to Railways for failure to take custody of electrical equipment lying around in different Railway stations:

(b) if so, the amount of demurrage paid by the U.P. Electricity Board to the Railways and amount to be paid before taking delivery of electrical equipment lying with the Railways at present; and

(c) whether in the context of the backwardness of U.P. and also the big amount already realised as demurrage, the Railway Administration proposes to write off the remaining amount of demurrage?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Production of M/s Abbott Laboratory

7138. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Abbott Laboratory' is a hundred per cent foreign-owned company, if so, what are its main products;

(b) total remittances made by the company, year-wise during the last 3 years;

(c) whether it has been alleged that the company has increased its production capacity by about one thousand per cent

over its licensed capacity without permission. if so, the facts thereof and action taken thereon;

(d) details of the COB licence issued recently to the company; and

(e) whether the COB license has been issued without requiring any reduction of foreign equity and if so, what are the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d) The entire share capital of M/s. Abbott Laboratories (India) Private Ltd. Bombay is at present held by M/s. Abbott Laboratories North Chicago USA. A statement indicating Licence No. and capacity approved, production during the year 1971, 1972 and 1973 and remittances during the past three years is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. *See* No LT 9490 75] The entire activity of the party is covered at present under COB licence issued in 1971. The party were also granted a letter of intent on 12-5-1970 details of which are given in the statement referred to above. For some of the items the company are producing in excess of their licensed capacity The Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry which submitted its report on 6th April, 1975 have looked into various aspects of the drug industry. Report of the Committee is under consideration and Government will take a view on the aspect of excess production in the totality of recommendations of the Committee.

(e) COB licence was granted to this company in 1971 to take cognizance of the activity already established and no condition of reduction of foreign equity was imposed One of the condition of the letter of intent granted to the party on 12th March, 1970 is that the extent of foreign investment in the proposed new undertaking shall be fixed to the satisfaction of Government While approving the terms of collaboration on the 7th March, 1974 a condition has been imposed to the effect that the company will reduce foreign holding to 60% within a period of 3 years from the date of obtaining industrial licence. The company have accepted this condition but licence is yet to issue.

Effect of marriage expenditure on economy

7139. SHRI RAM HEDAOO : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the marriage expenditure in the Country is causing adverse effect on the economy and standard of living of the people in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to enact legislation to reform marriage ceremonies and cut down marriage expenses; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b) Marriage expenditure is a matter outside the control and knowledge of the Government. Government do not have at present any proposal in view to impose statutory restriction in the matter.

(c) Does not arise.

Infringement of safety rules in South Eastern Railway

7141 SHRI D B CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation regarding infringement of safety rules in South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. The representation was examined and it was found that there was no infringement of Safety Rules on South Eastern Railway.

Substitute Luggage Porters of New Delhi Station

7142. SHRI MAHADEEPEK SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some substitute Luggage Porters working at New Delhi station are creating indiscipline and are indulging into malpractices for the last one year;

(b) if so, number of complaints made against these employees by the Supervisory staff of the Parcel Office, New Delhi station during the last one year; and

(c) action taken against these employees by the Administration?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) One substitute Parcel Porter has been indulging in such activities for the last one year;

(b) Supervisory staff of the Parcel Office lodged eleven reports against the substitute Parcel Porter during the last one year; and

(c) The concerned employee has been shifted to another booth and has been suitably reprimanded by the competent authority and the adequacy of the action taken against him is being examined by the Divisional Superintendent, Delhi.

Watermen of Rohana Kalan Station (Northern Railway)

7143. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Watermen of Rohana Kalan station (Northern Railway) now working at Ghaziabad station, were not put back on duty for 6 months by the Divisional Superintendent, Northern Railway, New Delhi, due to their absence from duty for one day during January, 1973;

(b) if so, reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the administration propose to pay their wages for this period; and

(d) if not, reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) No. There was, however, a case of one Waterman at Rohana Kalan, who unauthorisedly remained absent from duty on 17-1-72 against written orders. When he turned up for duty on 18-1-72, he was directed to report to the office of Divisional Superintendent, Delhi. But he remained absent up to 30-6-72 without producing any medical certificate. His unauthorised absence from 17-1-72 to 30-6-72 was treated as leave without pay. He is at present working at Ghaziabad.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Alignment work on Ernakulam-Alleppey Railway Line

7144. SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: Will the Ministry of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the alignment work on the Ernakulam-Alleppey Railway line has been finalised; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) It will be necessary to carry out an Engineering-survey and also update the Traffic survey carried out earlier in order to determine the cost of the project and its financial viability. It has been suggested to the Kerala State Government that the Railway could undertake the survey if the State Government agreed to bear its cost. Further action will be taken as soon as the views of the State Government are known.

Murders and Dacoities committed in Train on Northern Railway

7145. SHRI AMBESH: will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of murders and dacoities committed in trains on the Northern Railway during the last two years, yearwise; and

(b) the steps taken to prevent such incidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) On the Northern Railway there were 8 cases of murder, 9 cases of dacoity in trains during 1973 and 6 cases of murder and 12 cases of dacoity during 1974.

(b) Under the Constitution, law and order being a State subject, protection of the person and property of Passengers is the responsibility of the State Government discharged through the agency of the Government Railway Police. For the security of Passengers, constant efforts are made by the Railway Administration. The Police are already taking steps to control such offences in their areas by way of making vigorous investigations into these cases, providing escorts on passenger trains in vulnerable areas, putting men in plain clothes to travel in passenger trains for the purpose of detection of such incidence/apprehension of criminals on the spot Further strengthening of the measures for the security of passengers will be considered in a Seminar on the subject which is being organised by the Ministry of Railways.

Demand for extension of metre gauge line known as AP Railway in Gujarat

7146 SHRI P G MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Minister, the Railway Board and other higher authorities have received any memorandum from the Public bodies and/or individuals in Gujarat requesting for the extension of the present 150 km metre gauge line, known as the A. P Railway (Ahmedabad-Prantij Railway) from Ahmedabad to Khedbrahma, upto Abu Road, station, covering an additional 50 km.; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction and response to the said demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) Owing to the stringent position of funds and lack of adequate traffic justification, it would be difficult to consider the proposed extension in the present circumstances.

Consumption of Petroleum Products

7147. SHRI S. N. MISRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to bring down the consumption of petroleum products in the country during 1975?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): Government have taken/are taking various measures to curb the consumption of petroleum products in the country. These, *inter alia*, include (1) curbs on the consumption for non-essential purposes through fiscal and regulatory measures, (2) higher efficiency in the use of fuels, and (3) placing increasing reliance on alternative sources of energy and feedstocks.

Separate Running room for Travelling Ticket Examiners at Allahabad (Central Railway)

7148 SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Railway T.T Es are not provided separate running room at Allahabad

(b) the number of Central Railway Travelling Ticket Examiners daily reaching Allahabad and needing accommodations; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to provide a separate running room to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Running room facilities are provided mainly for regular running staff, certain categories of non-running staff like

TTEs are entitled for resting facility. In the combined running room for Central and Northern Railways' staff at Allahabad, seven beds are exclusively earmarked for the use of Central Railway TTEs.

(b) 18 daily.

(c) There is no proposal to provide a separate running room for Central Railway TTEs at Allahabad. However, arrangements are being made to provide additional beds for them.

Amount given to Legal Advisers of FACT

7149. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount given to the legal advisers of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited of Travancore, during the last three years, and its yearwise break-up; and

(b) the number and the particulars of cases for which this amount has been paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The information is given below:—

Year	Amount
1972-73	Rs. 63,370.40
1973-74	Rs. 81,469.83
1974-75	Rs. 1,39,574.35 (provisional as the accounts are yet to be closed)

This is inclusive of the legal fees, out of pocket expenses etc. of the advocates engaged for attending to cases pertaining to the company. This also includes retainer fees of Rs. 9000/- per annum paid to the company's legal advisers

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conversion of Samastipur-Darbhanga Line into Broad-Gauge Line

7150. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1074 on the 25th February, 1975 regarding extension of broad gauge line from Samastipur-Darbhanga to Raxaul and state:

(a) whether consideration of the abstract estimate for the conversion of Samasipur-Darbhanga metre gauge into broad gauge line has since been completed and the construction already started;

(b) if so, salient features thereabout; and

(c) if not, causes of delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) This section was subjected to heavy flood damage in the last monsoons and it, therefore, became necessary to provide additional waterway and to raise the height of bank. A fresh detailed survey will be conducted shortly to finalise the revised proposals and to assess the revised cost It will be possible to take up conversion work after completion of the proposed detailed survey.

Crisis in Chemical Industry due to shortage of Raw Materials

7151. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a crisis in the chemical industry due to shortage of raw materials and power;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ease the situation;

(c) whether, as a long term measure, the Government of India propose to induce the OPEC countries to setup joint ventures in the field of Petro-Chemicals in this country; and

(d) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) One of the major constraints which affected production in some of the chemical units has been power shortage. Assistance of the State Governments has been sought to solve this problem, wherever possible. In some cases, raw material shortages have also been reported. These are being relieved by taking steps to augment indigenous production and also through appropriate imports.

(c) and (d) The possibilities of establishing joint ventures in the field of petrochemicals in collaboration with certain Middle East countries are being explored. These are yet to be concretised

Proposal of Philips Limited to set up Electro-Medical Unit in Poona

7152. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has turned down the proposal of Philips Limited, to set up an electro-medical unit in Poona;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken a decision on the recommendation of Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission;

(c) what steps Government are taking to encourgae indigenous manufacturers in this field, and

(d) whether Government have put a curb on import of equipment in this sphere?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) The proposal of M/s Philips India Limited under Section 22 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act for manufacture of Electro-Medical Equipment was referred to Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission for further enquiry and report. The Commission has since submitted its report recommending rejection of the proposal. The recommendations made by the Commission are under consideration of the Central Government.

(c) So far, 8 parties in organised sector and 21 in the small scale sector have been licenced for the manufacture of a variety of medical electronic equipments, viz. Cardiac Care Systems, Intensive Care systems, Pace makers etc. A number of these are already in production. Additional letters of intents/approvals are being considered for well formulated schemes Most of these schemes are being implemented with indigenous know-how generated by Institutions like Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh, and Electronics and Radar Development Establishment, Bangalore etc Foreign collaboration has been permitted for very selected items for which adequate local know-how is not available.

(d) Imports of medical electronics equipments are being permitted at present under the category of 'life saving equipment' These include complete Intensive Care, Cardiac Care systems, Internal Pace Makers etc

राक फास्फेट का आयात

7153. श्री हेमेन्द्र सिंह बनेरा : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) वर्ष 1974-75 मे खनिज तथा धातु व्यापार निगम द्वारा विदेशों से किस तारीख को कितनी मात्रा मे राक फास्फेट का आयात किया गया और यह किस मूल्य पर बेचा गया था ;

(ख) वर्ष 1975 मे कितनी मात्रा में राक फास्फेट का आयात करने का प्रस्ताव है ,

(ग) क्या राक फास्फेट के आयात के कारण 6 फरवरी, 1975 को फायर रोटेड राक फास्फेट माइन्स पर राजस्थान माइन्स एण्ड मिनरल्स लिमिटेड का लगभग 2.20 लाख टन राक फास्फेट बिक्री न होने से जमा हो गया है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस राक फास्फेट के निपटान के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या व्यवस्था की गई है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) वर्ष 1974-75 के अन्तर्गत एम०एम०टी०सी० द्वारा विभिन्न स्रोतों से राक फास्फेट के निम्न लिखित आयात किए गए :--

माह	मात्रा (मीटरी टनों में)
अप्रैल 1974 . .	73,323
मई . . .	147,539
जून . . .	43,370
जुलाई . . .	98,154
अगस्त . . .	143,091
सितम्बर . .	64,780
अक्तूबर . .	40,050
नवम्बर . .	57,617
दिसम्बर . .	102,323
जनवरी 1975 . .	78,105
फरवरी . .	58,714
मार्च . . .	34,267
कुल .	941,333

आयात किए गए राक फास्फेट को हाई सी में एक्स-जैट्टी आधार पर निम्नलिखित दरों पर बेचा गया :—

मूल्य/रुपये प्रति मीटरी टन

	हाई सी विक्रय	एक्स-जैट्टी विक्रय
1. सिंगल सुपर फास्फेट के निर्माताओं को :—		
	रु०	रु०
अप्रैल—जून 1974	525	669
जुलाई–सितम्बर 1974	630	800
अक्तूबर–दिसम्बर 74	630	800
जनवरी–मार्च 1974	630	800
2. काम्पलैक्स के निर्माताओं को:—		
वास्तविक लागत (ऊपरी खर्च सहित) तथा		
मिनरल एण्ड मैटल्स ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन (एम०एम०टी०सी०) द्वारा 3 रुपये प्रति मीटरी टन की दर से लिया गया सेवा खर्च ।		

(ख) वर्तमान में वर्ष 1975-76 के लिए राक-फास्फेट की कुल आयातित आवश्यकता का 75 लाख मीटरी टन का अनुमान लगाया गया है लेकिन सितम्बर-अक्तूबर 1975 में स्थिति का पुनरीक्षण किया जाएगा ।

(ग) और (घ) क्योंकि वर्तमान में राक फास्फेट का देशीय उत्पादन देश की कुल आवश्यकता से कम है इसलिए मांग और सप्लाई के अंतर को कम करने के लिए, संभावित सीमा तक, इसके आयात की व्यवस्था की जाती है । अधिकांश फास्फेटिक उर्वरक निर्माता आयातित और देशीय राक फास्फेट दोनों का सप्लाई प्राप्त करते हैं । हाल ही में राजस्थान में देशीय राक के एकत्र होने की सूचना मिली है इसका मुख्य कारण पूर्ववत अनुमान से अधिक उत्पादन होना तथा उर्वरक निर्माताओं के सामने देशीय राक के प्रयोग में तकनीकी कठिनाई का उत्पन्न होना है। उपलब्ध देशीय राक के अधिकतम उपयोग को सुनिश्चित करने हेतु, हर एक प्रयत्न किए जा रहे हैं ।

Expenses incurred on Hathi Committee

7154. SHRI NANUBHAI N. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total expenses incurred on the Hathi Committee;

(b) whether the information asked for by the Committee from various Government departments was not supplied or supplied after lapse of considerable

time and this adversely affected the work of the Committee; and

(c) whether the same bureaucrats who were involved in the matter of issue of COB and Permission letters have been placed on this Committee; if so, the reasons for not taking such officials out of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The expenses incurred on the TA and DA of non official members and accommodation of the Chairman and office of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry were Rs. 89,635.68 up to the 31st March, 1975. Some further claims and adjustments are however yet to be finalised.

(b) and (c) Such information as was asked for and available was furnished to the Committee.

Views of Members of Hathi Committee on Take-over of Drug Firms

7155. SHRI NANUBHAI N. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority decision for taking over of foreign firms given by the Hathi Committee was strongly opposed by the bureaucrats, which appeared in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi recently.

(b) if so, the names of Members who voted for the take-over of foreign firms and also of those who opposed it;

(c) whether these officers who opposed this idea have been processing the cases of foreign firms in their official capacity, mainly for which the Hathi Committee was constituted; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

Examination of Agreements between Foreign Drug Firms and their Principals by Hathi Committee

7156. SHRI NANUBHAI N. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hathi Committee examined agreements between the foreign firms and their principals, the original capital invested by each of them and the present status achieved, the ways and means to achieving it.

(b) whether on account of constant pressure full information on the subject was not provided to the Hathi Committee; and the Committee could not discuss these matters in details; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to meet with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

(b) No, Sir, such of the information as was asked for and available was furnished to the Committee

(c) Does not arise.

Manufacture and Import of Glabenclamide and Alpha Methyldopa

7157. SHRI NANUBHAI N. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Glabenclamide and Alpha Methyldopa are life-saving drugs, marketed by Hoechst, Boringher Knoll and M.S.D., multi-national giants in our country; Item-wise licensed capacity with number and date of licences and production in last three years, company-wise;

(b) whether Glybenclamide is being manufactured by a small scale manufacturer from basic stages and sufficient quantities are available in ex-stock and still M/s. Hoechst imported this drug worth Rs. 4.20 Lacs on 28th February, 1975;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to issue order to seize the overstock made by this firm, flouting IDR Act import regulations and curbing the growth of the Indian sector; and

(d) what were the grounds on which Methyldopa was allowed to be imported by M.S.D. from their principals in America, when this item is canalised and whether it was under compulsion of his Ministry that STC has to import from MSD (USA), the brief particulars of the correspondence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir, item-wise details of the three companies are as under:—

S. No.	Name of Co. and name of items	Licence No. and date with capacity	Production during		
			1972	1973	1974
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	MSD (Aldomet-Tablets of Methyl Dopa)	L/22/171/63-Ch. III dt. 30-10-1963 and amendment letter No. I (20)/63-Ch.III dt. 5-2-1964 36 lakhs p.a.	29.4 million Tablets & 164 Kgs. of blend for export	30.4 million Tablets	18.6 million Tablets
2	Hoechst Pharmaceuticals (formulations of Glybenclamide)	L/22/460/73-Ch. III dt. 9-1-1963 20 million (within the overall capacity).	Production figures of these two companies are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.		
3	Boehringer Knoll Ltd. (formulations of Glybenclamide)	L/22/467/73-Ch. III dt. 14-3-1973 15.5 million (within the overall licenced capacity).			

(b) and (c) One Small Scale Unit viz. M/s. Cadila Chemicals Private Limited are reported to have commenced the production of Glybenclamide bulk and it is reported to be capable of producing 600 kgs. p.a. of this bulk drug. Position about stock of bulk drug with this unit and the import of the same, if any, effected by M/s Hoechst on 28-2-1975 is being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House, and whether there is any flouting of the IDR Act will also be examined.

(d) M/s. Merck Sharp and Dohme are the largest formulators of Methyl Dopa in the country. The company expressed their unwillingness to lift the material imported by the STC from rupee sources. This created shortages of this drug and many eminent doctors wrote to the Ministry of the necessity of adequate availability of such life saving drug. To alleviate the shortage of Aldomet formulations manufactured by M/s. MSD Government have allowed imports of some quantities of Methyl Dopa, through STC, from MSD (USA), but at average price comparable to that at which this drug is available from rupee sources. IDPL have been asked to take up the formulations of this drug and their products are expected to be available before the end of June, 1975. After this the entitlement of MSD with regard to their requirement of bulk Methyl Dopa *vis-a-vis* their licensed capacity will be reviewed.

Loss suffered by Railways due to Thefts during 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75

7158. SHRI VEKARIA:
SHRI ARVIND M PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the total loss suffered by the Railways on account of thefts during 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75, Zone-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): The following table shows the total loss suffered by the Railways due to thefts and pilferages of booked consignments during 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75 (up to January 75):—

Railway	Year	Amount paid (in lakhs of Rs.)
Central	1972-73	76.08
	1973-74	97.50
	1974-75	94.05
Eastern . .	1972-73	221.54
	1973-74	269.01
	1974-75	215.28
Northern . .	1972-73	137.75
	1973-74	112.76
	1974-75	111 99
North Eastern	1972-73	48.18
	1973-74	59.90
	1974-75	51.98
Northeast Frontier	1972-73	90.39
	1973-74	127.16
	1974-75	100.14
Southern . .	1972-73	63.00
	1973-74	59.13
	1974-75	54.34
South Central .	1972-73	41.05
	1973-74	46.22
	1974-75	48.21
South Eastern .	1972-73	122.33
	1973-74	108.26
	1974-75	92.12
Western . .	1972-73	113.59
	1973-74	104.17
	1974-75	101.71

Ceiling on Booking of Indane Gas Connections

7159. SHRI D. P. JADEJA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have instructed the Indian Oil Corporation to put a ceiling on the booking of Indane Gas connections; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P MAJHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir Indian Oil Corporation continues to enroll new customers in markets where additional gas can be made available and open new markets where it has plans to develop the facility No new customers are enrolled in markets where it can not at present provide additional gas Government has however advised the Corporation to place a limit on the number of customers booked by each individual dealer

Proposals from Maharashtra Government for setting up of Chemical Plants

7160. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has submitted any proposals to the Central Government for setting up of chemical plans;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof, location-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government thereto and decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) (a) to (c) No proposal has been received in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. However, the position is being checked up with the Maharashtra Government.

मध्य प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय में गत पांच वर्षों से विचाराधीन प्रकरण

7161. **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय** : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय मे गत पांच वर्षों से कितने प्रकरण विचाराधीन हैं ;

(ख) क्या ऐसे प्रकरणों की संख्या निरन्तर बढ़ रही है जिससे न्यायधीशों की संख्या बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है ; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री एच० आर० गोखले) : (क) 31-12-1974 को मध्य प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय में, प्रकीर्ण मामलों को छोड़कर, 3,199 मामले पांच वर्ष से अधिक समय से लम्बित थे ।

(ख) और (ग) जी, हा । अगस्त, 1972 मे मुख्य मंत्रियों से अनुरोध किया गया था कि हर एक उच्च न्यायालय मे प्रत्येक तीन वर्ष मे कार्य की स्थिति का एक व्यवस्थित पुनर्विलोकन किया जाना चाहिए और इस बात को ध्यान मे रखते हुए कि वहा कितने मामले सस्थित किए गए, कितने निपटाए गए और कितने निपटाये जाने के लिए बाकी है, न्यायाधीशों की सख्या पुन:नियत की जानी चाहिए, मध्य प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायाधीशों की संख्या में वृद्धि के लिए राज्य प्राधिकारियो से कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नही हुआ है ।

हिन्दी टाईपराइटरों की सप्लाई

7162. **श्री सुधाकर पांडे** : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उनके मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत ऐसे कार्यालयों को जहां इस समय केवल अंग्रेजी के टाइपराईटर हैं, हिन्दी के टाइपराईटर सप्लाई करने के लिए सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री एच० आर० गोखले) : विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्रालय के अधीन सभी कार्यालयों में उनकी अपेक्षाओं के अनुसार हिन्दी टाइपराइटरों की व्यवस्था कर दी गई है।

Retrenchment in Wagon Industry

7163. SHRI TUNA ORAON:

SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any communication from the Chief Minister of West Bengal regarding the problem of retrenchment in the wagon industries in the State due to lack of railway wagon orders in these units; and

(b) if so, the action taken regarding the problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) As on 1-4-1975 the wagon industry in West Bengal had a load of 15335 wagons (in terms of four wheelers) which compared to their 1974-75 production of 6035 wagons (in terms of four wheelers) represents more than two years load which may be considered as an adequate load for this industry. However, constraints on funds allotted for wagon procurement, the production in 1975-76 may have to be regulated to 50% of the 74-75 production. Therefore, industry have to diversify/export the released capacity.

Tenders for procurement of about 14,000 wagons in terms of four wheelers against 1974-75 Rolling Stock Programme are under consideration. However, placement of additional orders will depend upon the availability of additional funds for which efforts are being made..

Recommendations of Hathi Committee Regarding Supply of Essential Drugs to Consumers.

7164 SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hathi Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to discuss in detail item (vii) of its Terms of Reference regarding measures for providing essential drugs to consumers, specially in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the membership of the Sub-Committee, its recommendations and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R GANESH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry 'on measures for providing essential drugs and common household remedies to the general public, especially in rural areas' containing the constitution of the Sub-Committee and the recommendations was placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 4th March 1975. The report is under consideration of Government.

Recommendations of Hathi Committee on New Technology for Drug Industry

7165. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hathi Committee appointed a sub-committee to discuss in detail item No. (iv) of its Terms of Reference i.e. 'to examine the present arrangements for the flow of new technology into the industry, and make recommendations therefor'; and

(b) what were the recommendations of the sub-committee, initial and the final and what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

Questions Referred to Hathi Committee

7166. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in reply to a number of questions during this Session it has been stated that the matter is under consideration of the Hathi Committee;

(b) whether all these Questions were forwarded to the Hathi Committee to enable it to discuss the relevant matters in depth; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As the subject matter of the Questions largely related to and fell within the terms of reference of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry, no separate reference to the Committee was considered necessary.

मध्य प्रदेश में नैफथा का उत्पादन

7167. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1973-74 में मध्य प्रदेश मे नैफथा का कुल कितना उत्पादन हुआ ;

(ख) यह नैफथा किस फर्म को बेचा गया था ;

(ग) वर्ष 1973-74 मे कितना नैफथा अन्य राज्यो को सप्लाई किया गया ; और

(घ) इन राज्यों के नाम क्या हैं और इन राज्यो को यह नैफथा किस दर पर सप्लाई किया गया ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सी० पी० भाम्री) : (क) और (ख) मध्य प्रदेश में कोई तेल शोधनशाला नहीं है । अत: इस राज्य में नैफथा उत्पादन का प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(क) शेष (ख) अलग पेट्रोरसायन यूनिटों के लिए नेफ्था की खपत होती है। उनकी मांगों के आधार अलग यूनिटों को सप्लाई की जाती है। नेफ्था का आबंटन राज्यवार आधार पर नहीं किया जाता है। विभिन्न राज्यों में स्थित अनेक यूनिटों द्वारा 1973-74 में नेफ्था का उठान निम्नलिखित रूप में है :—

राज्य/संघ शासित क्षेत्र	1000 मी० टन मात्रा
आन्ध्र प्रदेश . .	65.2
बिहार . .	23.8
गुजरात . .	171.7
गोआ . .	124.9
केरल . . .	115.4
मध्य प्रदेश . .	20.4
महाराष्ट्र . .	398.6
उड़ीसा . .	38.0
राजस्थान . .	102.5
तमिलनाडु . .	212.3
उत्तर प्रदेश . .	185.3
पश्चिम बंगाल . .	44.0
अन्य . . .	2.5
कुल जोड .	1504.6

Doubling of Railway line between Alwaye and Olavakkot in Kerala

7168. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in the works on the doubling of the railway line between Alwaye and Olavakkot in Kerala; and

(b) the total amount allotted for this during 1975-76 and the time by which it is expected to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) 18 km. of track between Shoranur and Alwaye are expected to be completed by March, 1976.

(b) an outlay of Rs. 100.01 lakhs has been provided in 1975-76 Budget for the doubling works between Olavakkot and Alwaye. The works will take three years for completion.

Utilisation of Soviet vessel for Seismic survey of Indian Coasts

7169. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:
(a) whether Government propose to utilise the service of Soviet Vessel at present operating at the Sri Lanka Coasts for the Seismic survey of our coasts; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to include the survey of Kerala coasts also in its programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) Nor Sir.
(b) Does not arise

Complaints filed with the Institute of Chartered Accountants

7170. SHRI N E. HORO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which Government have filed complaints with the Institute of Chartered Accountants against the Chartered Accountants for their failure to properly perform their statutory duties under Section 227 of the Act;

(b) whether the number of such complaints had not been appreciably large owing to lack of proper scrutiny of balance-sheets and profit and loss accounts and the Audit certificate given under Section 227 of the Act in the offices of the Registrar of Companies; and

(c) if so, steps Government have proposed to take in this regard to ensure that the reports of the Statutory Auditors are carefully examined and necessary action taken against the delinquent Company managements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS. (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) During the last three years the Government had filed the following number of complaints or 'Information' in the nature of complaints with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India for appropriate action against the concerned Chartered Accountants·—

year 1972 . .	6
year 1973 . .	4
year 1974	6

(b) The Annual Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss accounts filed by the companies are scrutinised by the concerned Registrars of Companies from time to time and, wherever required, appropriate action is taken against any lapse(s) on the part of the concerned auditor(s), and

(c) Does not arise

Implementation of orders of Department of personnel for Appointment of Stenographers Appointments

7171 KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether Railway Board will implement the order dated 6th September, 1973 of Department of Personnel with regard to appointment of Stenographers; and

(b) if so, when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) The Cabinet Secretariat, Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms vide their Notification dated 6-9-1973 amended the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service Rules, 1969, which are applicable to the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service only The question of amending the Railway Board Secretariat Stenographers Service Rules, 1971 on similar lines is under consideration.

Amendment to Railway Board Secretariat Stenographers Service

7172. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Board has amended the Railway Board Secretariat Stenographers Service Rule as per instructions issued by Cabinet Secretariat on the 6th September, 1973;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(c) whether 20 posts of SPAs are to be filled up in accordance with the above rules and if not, the procedure being adopted to fill up the vacancies and the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) The Cabinet Secretariat, Department of Petsonnel & Administrative Reforms vide their Notification dated 6-9-1973 amended the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service Rules, 1969, which are applicable to the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service only The question of amending the Railway Board Secretariat Stenographers Service Rules, 1971 on similar lines is under consideration

(c) The procedure for filling up these vacancies, which have arisen, prior to the proposed modfication of the rules by the Railway Board is under consideration

Theft from Railway Wagons on Madras—Howrah Line

7174 SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN· Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether his attnetion has been invited to the news item appearing in Hindi 'Navbharat Times' dated the 31st March, 1975 (last page) under the heading 'Railway Wagon se Niyamit Chori' (continued theft from railway wagons);

(b) whether a gang of rich persons is active in this trade of theft from railway wagons between Stuartpuram and Chinguljam stations of Madras-Howrah main line; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) No such gang has come to light. However, some ex. notified tribals residing at Stuartpuram have been reported to be stoppings goods trains by interfering with signals and committing thefts of consignments moving in wagons particularly foodgrains.

In Close co-ordination with the Government Railway/District Police, adequate steps have been taken to prevent such thefts in the section. Besides normal measures, an armed RPF party has been deputed at Nidubrolu station for preventing offences and rounding up criminals operating in the Section. Escorting of goods trains has been undertaken and armed pickets have also been posted at other vulnerable places. As a result of these measures not only an improvement in the situation has been reported, but most of the property stolen has also been recovered.

Railway Stations with Income of over Rs. 20 Lakhs per month from Goods Traffic in Delhi Division.

7175 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railway stations which show an income of over Rs. 20 lakhs per motnh from goods traffic in Delhi Division of Northern Railway;

(b) whether proper arrangements for the protection of these goods including godown facilities exist at these stations;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date by which such facilities would be provided; and

(d) the average figures of monthly income in the years 1973-74 and 1974-75 for each one of the stations in part (a) above?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SNGH): (a) New Delhi station only.

(b) and (c) Yes. However, extension of goods platform near cement siding and provision of a shed on the mineral siding platform are necessary. These works will be included in the Works Programme for the year 1976-77 subject to the availability of funds.

(d) The average monthly earnings of New Delhi station from goods traffic during years 1973-74 and 1974-75 were Rs. 59·40 lakhs and Rs. 94·60 lakhs respectively.

Payments of O. T. Allowance and T. A. by Railway Administration

7176. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to statae:

(a) the comparative figures for (i) overtime allowance (ii) travelling allowance paid by each one of the Railway Zonal establishments, Railway Board and D. L. W., C. L. W. and I. C. F. for the years 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75 separately and by the total establishment for all Railways;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to curtail the payment due to these two sub-heads in the drive for economy;

(c) if so, the nature of the steps taken and results thereof; and

(d) the percentage of the total payments for each one of the units in (a) above to the total Wage Bill for the periods under reference, separately for each unit and for all the Railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (d) In regard to figures of overtime for the years 1972-73 and 1973-74, attention of the Hon'ble Member is invited to the information already furnished in reply to his Question No. 5361 answered in this House on 8-4-1975. The figures of overtime for the year 1974-75 and travelling allowance for 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75 are being collected and the same will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(b) and (c) Among the reasons which contribute to the incidence of overtime on the Railways are shortage of staff absenteeism, vacancies unfilled, increase in traffic, inadequacy of line capacity, etc Instructions have been issued to Railways from time to time emphasising on them necessity of removing all such factors which increase the incidence of overtime payment to Railway staff Instructions have also been issued to Railways to make a cut of 10% in expenditure on travelling alowance and overtime payment to office staff as a measure of economy

Restoration of Trains cancelled during Railway Strike.

7177 PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) the particulars of trains which were cancelled during the Railway Strike in May 1974 and which have not been started so far zone-wise and interzonal,

(b) the likely date by which each one of them would be restarted, and

(c) whether any priority will be fixed while restoring them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Recommendations of the Hathi Committee on Small Scale Sector of Drug Industry

7178 SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hathi Committee appointed a sub-committee to discuss item (iii) of its Terms of Reference regarding small scale sector of drugs industry, who were the members of the Sub-Committee and the recommendations of the Sub-Committee,

(b) whether no body took interest in the development of Small scale sector in the face of pressure from bureaucrats on the Committee, who were interested in foreign firms; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in the matter for the growth of small scale sector of drug industry in view of the need for a balanced regional dispersal of pharmaceutical industry,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R GANESH). (a) and (b) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention

(c) While most of the units in the small scale sector are manufacturing formulations, some of them are also engaged in the production of bulk drugs which are either being formulated by themselves or offered for sale to other formulating units

Their production is estimated at about 20% of the overall turnover of the industry and some of them are playing an important role in the production of bulk drugs from basic stages as well as intermediates and chemicals required by the industry

Small scale units, i e undertakings having investment in fixed assets in plant and machinery not exceeding Rs 7 5 lakhs do not require licences under the Industries (Dev & Reg) Act 1951 Units with a turnover not exceeding Rs 50 lakhs per annum have also been exempted from obtaining approval for the prices of their products under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order 1970

In the case of small scale units incremental allocation of canalised raw materials are made over the past consumption on the following pattern, viz (a) additional 30% to units having a turnover of less than Rs 1 crore and (b) additional 15% to units having a turnover of Rs 1 crore and more per annum

Such of the recomendations as have been made by the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in regard to the development of the drug industry

in the small scale sector regional dispersal, etc. will also be kept in view for their further development.

Evidence given by Secretaries before Hathi Committee

7179. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether three Secretaries of Government of India appeared before the Hathi Committee to give evidence regarding 'Permission Letters' and 'COB Licences';

(b) if so, whether they pleaded in favour of the foreign sector to cover up the irregularities committed by the officials in these matters;

(c) what are the conclusions arrived at and whether Government would revoke all permission letters and COB Licences which have proved to be illegal; and

(d) whether Government will fix responsibility in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PEROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d) Three Secretaries to the Government of India appeared before the Sub-Committee, constituted by the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry, to examine the question of issue of permission/no objection letters and COB Licences issued by Government.

The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

Cochin Refinery working at low capacity

7180. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cochin Refinery has been operating at a very low capacity;

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to increase the utilisation of the installed capacity?

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) to (c) During 1974, the Cochin Refinery processed 2.37 million tonnes of crude oil as against its capacity of 3.3. million tonnes per annum.

In view of the limited availability of foreign exchange for import of crude oil, some of the refineries operating on imported crude oil, including Cochin Refinery, have to operate at reduced levels. The crude allocation and operaing levels of the refineries processing imported crude are decided keeping in view the regional demand for products and the product pattern of the refineries.

Postponement of introduction of passenger trains on Waltair-Kirandul line

7181. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ballast packing underneath the Railway track on the Waltair-Kirandul line was found to be defective, resulting in the postponement of the introduction of passenger trains on that line;

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in the matter; and

(c) if so, the result of the enquiry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महिला वर्ष के संबंध में कोचीन में आयोजित संगोष्ठी में की गई मांगे

7182. श्री कुशोक बाकुला : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महिला वर्ष के संबंध मे हाल में कोचीन में आयोजित एक संगोष्ठी में पास किये गये संकल्प की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें यह मांग की गई है कि :—

(1) दहेज प्रथा का उन्मूलन किया जावे ;

(2) तलाक कानून की खामियों को दूर किया जाये ;

(3) महिलाओं को रोजगार देने के लिए विशेष योजनायें बनाई जाय; और

(4) पंचायत से संसद् तक 25 प्रतिशत स्थान महिलाओं के लिये सुरक्षित किये जायें ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार की उस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है और उन्हें कार्यान्वित करने के लिये क्या उपाय किये जाने हैं ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री पूच० आर० गोखले) : (क) इस मंत्रालय को ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Sulphur mixed crude for Mathura Refinery

7183. SHRI BANAMALI BABU:
SHRI BHAGIRATH BHANWAR:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA.
SHRI M KATHAMUTHU.

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mathura refinery will have a large quantity of sulphur mixed crude coming to it for processing;

(b) the quantity of indigenous and imported crude likely to be made available for the Mathura refinery; and

(c) the steps proposed for safeguarding the health of the adjoining areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P. MAJHI): (a) Mathura Refinery is being designed to process imported crudes with comparatively high sulphur content

(b) As per design, the refinery could process 6 million tonnes of imported crude per annum Depending on the extent of crude oil available from the Bombay High Oil fields and other indigenious sources, the refinery may process some quantities of indigenous crude also.

(c) Special facilities are being added in the design of the refinery so that hazards on account of pollution from gaseous effluents are eliminated. The liquid effluents would be treated using most uptodate and modern methods and the final water let out would meet the standards prescribed by the Indian Standards Institution for irrigation water and also for streams that are to be let into rivers. Therefore, the treated effluent water will not pose any hazard when used either for irrigation or for human use after normal treatment in Municipal treating facilities. The gaseous effluents will also be suitably treated so that these gases do not cause any health hazard to the people or historical monuments m the areas adjoining the refinery.

Programme for remodelling Sealdah Station during the Fifth Five-Year Plan

7184 SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the programme for remodelling of Sealdah Station during the Fifth Five-Year Plan period; and

(b) number of trains that come and leave this station in a day, the average number of passengers using this station in a day, taxi stand facilities there and how these compare to Delhi, Bombay and Howrah stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The work of remodelling Sealdah Station was taken up in 1960-61 in three phases Work on two phases has been completed and the work on third phase is now in progress and will be completed in Fifth Plan

The salient features include remodelling of the yard, provision of route relay inter-locking cabin, provision of additional platforms, construction of RMS Pay and Cash Office, raising and paving of platforms with extension of platform sheds, construction of new station building in place of the old one in front of Main and North Stations etc.

(b) Altogether 398 trains arrive and leave Sealdah Station. On an average 32550 passengers use the station daily.

There are two taxi stands, one near Sealdah South Station for 10 taxi and the other near Main Station for 30 taxis. Taxi stand facilities at Railway stations are provided according to the situation of the station, availability of space in the circulating area etc. If is, therefore,

not possible to make a comparison of this facility as provided at stations in Delhi, Bombay and Howrah.

Railway advertisements in Small and Medium News-papers of West Bengal and North Eastern States

7185. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the small and medium newspapers of West Bengal and North Eastern States are not given railway advertisements;

(b) if so, the names and details of weeklies which received advertisements from the railways during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the action taken to give advertisements to Smabad (Agartala), Dainik Pranta Jyoti (Silchar), Janani (Calcutta), Dainik Chandra Bhaga (Suri), Janapat (Jalpaiguri) and Swadhin Barta (Midnapore)?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The small and medium newspapers of West Bengal and North Eastern States which are in the approved list of Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity are given Railway advertisements.

(b) The list is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 9491/75].

(c) Janani (Calcutta) is being given advertisements at par with other publications of similar circulation and standing. No reference regarding advertisements has yet been received from Smabad (Agartala).

The Dainik Pranta Jyoti (Silchar), Dainik Chandra Bhaga (Suri), Janapat (Jalpaiguri) and Swadhin Barta (Midnapore) are not in the approved list of the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, as such railway advertisements are not being released to them.

Increase in Railway mileage in West Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra

7186. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) total railway mileage increased in West Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra during the last three years, linewise;

(b) railway lines under construction during the last three years in these states state-wise; and

(c) the broad outlines of the survey made in these States State-wise for new lines, line-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The increase in route kilometreage of railway lines, in the States of West Bengal, Bihar and Maharashtra, during the last three years is as under:—

S. No.	State	Name of line	Gauge	Total length (in kms)
1	2	3	4	5
1	Bihar . . .	Avoiding line at Barkakhana	BG	2.30
2	Bihar . . .	Saraigarh-Pratapganj(Restoration)	MG	23.00
3	West Bengal . .	Diversionary approaches to and across the Farakk Barrage.	BG	12.46
4	West Bengal . .	Diversion of the Ballalpur Halt-Tildanga line along the left bank of the Feeder Canal.	BG	5.97
5	West Bengal . .	Andul-Calcutta Chord link	BG	15.03
6	West Bengal . .	Permanent diversion between Sujnipara and Ahiran	BG	5.49
7	Maharashtra .	Nil	..	..
		TOTAL	..	64.25

(b) The new lines under construction in these states in addition to those completed as per details vide reply to part (a) during last three years are as follows:

S. No	State	Name of the line	Present position
1	2	3	4
1	Bihar . . .	Jhanjharpur-Laukahabazar	Work in progress
2	Bihar . . .	Pratapganj Forbesganj	Work in progress
3	Bihar . . .	Bagaha-Ghhitauni	Work in progress
4	Bihar . . .	Hasanpur Sakri	Work approved
5	West Bengal . .	Howiah Amata BG line with Baragachia champadanga branch line	Do
6	West Bengal . .	Howrah-Sheakhala BG line	Do
7	Maharashtra .	Wani-Ghanaka	Work in progress

(c) The surveys undertaken in the States under reference State-wise and line wise for new lines are as under —

S No	State	Name of line	Present position
1	2	3	4
1	Bihar . .	Final location Engineering survey for Jhanjharpur Laukahabaza new MG line	Survey completed
2	Bihar . .	Final Location Engineering and traffic survey for Hasanpur Sakri new M G line	Do
3	Bihar . .	Preliminary Engineering and Traffic Survey for Simi Bakhtiayarpur Bihariganj new M G line.	Survey is in progress
4	Bihar . .	Reconnaissance Engineering-cum Traffic Survey for Dauram Madhepura-Singheshwar Asthan new M G line	Survey completed.
5	Bihar	Final Location Engineering cum Traffic Survey for Saraigarh-Pratapganj M G (Restoration	Do
6	Bihar	Final Location Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for Partapganj Forbesganj M G (Restoration	Do
7	Bihar . .	Final Location Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for Bagaha Ghhitauni M G (Restoration)	Do
8	Bihar . .	Final Location Engineering-Survey, for Dehri-on-Sone-Pipradih	Do
9	Bihar . .	Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic surveys for Mandar Hill to Saintria via Dumka with a branch to Baidyanathdham	Survey in progress
10	Bihar . .	Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Surveys from Hazaribagh Town to Rampurhat	Survey sanctioned

S.No.	State	Name of line	Present position
1	2	3	4
11	Bihar . .	Preliminary Engineering-cum-Taffic Surveys fro m Ranchi road to Hazaribagh.	Survey Sanctioned.
12	Bihar . .	Traffic survey from Ranchi to Korba	Do.
13	West Bengal .	Traffic Survey for New lines in the Sundarban areas.	Survey completed for four lines and in progress for one.
14	West Bengal .	Final Location-cum-traffic survey for Howrah-Amta B.G. line with Bargachia-Champadanga branch line.	Survey completed.
15	West Bengal .	Final location-cum-traffic survey for Howrah-Sheakhala B.G. line	Do.
16	West Bengal .	Traffic survey from Eklahi to Belurghat	Do.
17	Maharashtra .	Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for Wardha-Katol New line.	Survey in progress.
18	Maharashtra .	Final Location Survey from Apta to	Survey completed
19	Maharashtra .	Final Location Survey between Dasgaon and Ratnagiri and spot checks between Ratnagiri and Mangalore.	Survey in progress.
20	Maharashtra .	Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey from Roha on the proposed Apta-Dasgaon line to Agardanda.	Survey in progress..

Licences issued for chemical and drug industries

7187. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) facts about setting up of chemical and drug companies to whom licences were issued during the last three years; and

(b) how many such licences still remain unoperated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Accidents of Eastern and North Eastern Railways

7188. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents which took place on Eastern and North Eastern Railways during the last one year;

(b) the particulars of these accidents; and

(c) the number of persons killed thereby?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) During the year 1974-75, category-wise train accidents on Eastern and North Eastern Railways have been as follows:—

S.No.	Category	Eastern Railway	North Eastern Railway
1	Collisions	-	4
2	Derailments	55	66
3	Level crossing accidents	6	19
4	Fires in trains	2	2
	TOTAL	75	91

(c) In these accidents 79 persons were killed.

Increase in Railway lines in West Bengal and North Eastern States

7189 SHRI S N SINGH DEO Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) whether only 11 20 kilometres railway lines have been increased in West Bengal and North Eastern States during the last three years,

(b) if so, the details of the increase of railway lines in Southern States during the said period

(c) the salient features of the techno economic surveys made in West Bengal and North Eastern States during the said period, line-wise, and

(d) the amount spent on techno-economic surveys or departmental surveys in these States during the said period'

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) The net increase/decrease in the rent kilometrage of railway lines in West Bengal, North Eastern and Southern States State-wise, during the last three years i e, as on 31st March 1974 over 31st March, 1971 is indicated below.

States	Net increase/decrease in route kilometrage
West Bengal and North Eastern States—	
West Bengal	(—)19
Assam	..
Mizoram	
Manipur	.
Meghalaya	..
Nagaland	
Tripura	
Arunachal Pradesh	..
Southern States—	
Andhra Pradesh	(—)12*
Karnataka	.
Kerala	
Tamil Nadu	(—)7
Pondicherry	.

*Decrease in route kilometrage is due to removal of Tsunduru-Vejendla chord and a take off point

(c) and (d) Techno-Economic surveys for the following lines have been completed in these States from 31-3 71 to 31 3-74

Name of the line	State(s	Expenditure as sanctioned	Present position
1	2	3	4
		(Rs in lakhs)	
1 Traffic Survey for New lines in the Sundarban region	West Bengal	2 40	Survey completed for all lines except one
2 Engineering cum-Traffic surveysfor a B G line between Howrah and Sheakhala	Do	0 99	Survey completed
3 Engineering-cum Traffic Survey for Howrah Amta B G. line with Bargachia Champadanga branch line	Do.	1 91	Survey completed
4 Silchar Jiribam	Assam, Manipur	1 43	Survey completed
5 Traffic Survey—Akhaura-Agartala-Sabroom with a link to Belonia	Tripura	1 16	Survey completed
6 Traffic survey for a B G line from Eklakhi to Balurghat	West Bengal	0 53	Survey completed.

Name of the line	State(s)	Expenditure as sanctioned	Present position
1	2	3	4
Further, Survey for the following lines have also been sanctioned at the cost of the N.E. Council during 1974-75.			
(i) Rangapara/Balipara/Bhalukpong.	Assam & Arunachal Pradesh	3·61	Survey in progress.
(ii) Jogighopa-Pancharatna-Darangiri.	Assam & Arunachal Pradesh.	14·55	Survey in progress.
(iii) Gauhati-Burnihat . .	Assam & Meghalaya	1·86	Survey in progress.
(iv) Lalaghat-Sairang . .	Assam & Mizoram	9·86	Survey in progress.
(v) Murkongselek-Passighat .	Assam & Arunachal Pradesh.	2 53	Survey in progress.
(vi) Tipling-Itanagar . .	Assam & Arunachal Pradesh.	1·53	Survey in progress.
(vii) Gauhati-Dudhnai . .	Assam	2·19	Survey in progress.

During 1974-75 survey for railway sidings from Akhaura and Belonia in Bangladesh to Agartala and Belonia City in Tripura at a cost of Rs. 0·50 lakh has also been completed.

Direct train from Cochin to Bombay

7190. SHRI P. R. SHENOY:
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a direct train from Cochin to Bombay is proposed to be introduced shortly; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) and (b) No. However, 17 pairs of Holiday specials on fast timings with limited stoppages are being run between Bombay and Ernakulam during April to June, 1975 to clear extra rush of traffic.

Expansion and Improvement of Mangalore Station

7191. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway station in Mangalore requires expansion and improvement; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of plans therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) The existing facilities at Mangalore station are generally adequate. Further augmentation of facilities at this station will however, be considered for inclusion in the future years Works programmes subject to availability of funds and approval of such works by the Railway Users' Amenities Committee.

Level crossing between New Mangalore Harbour and Mangalore and between Mangalore and Puttur

7192. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of level crossings between New Mangalore Harbour and Mangalore and between Mangalore and Puttur across the Mangalore-Hasan railway line with the names of places at which these crossings are situated; and

(b) whether there is any scheme to construct overbridges or underbridges at any of these level crossings?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Provision has been made for 6 Nos. of road over/under bridges between New Mangalore Harbour and

Mangalore and 10 Nos. of over/under bridges between Mangalore and Puttur sections.

Statement

The total number of level crossings between New Mangalore Harbour and Mangalore and between Mangalore and Puttur across the Mangalore-Hassan Railway line is indicated below:

(i) Between New Mangalore Harbour and Mangalore: Total 26.

No. of level Crossings.	Place
1	2
(a) for vehicular traffic—7	
2 Nos.	Jeppinamogaru village.
1 No.	Alape village.
1 No.	Padavu/Kudupu village.
1 No.	Thokur village.
1 No.	Baikmbady village.
1 No.	Padushedde village.
(b) For cattle crossings—19 Nos.	

(ii) Between Mangalore and Puttur Total 50.

(a) For vehicular traffic: 12 Nos.

No. of leval Crossing	Place
2 Nos.	Jeppinamogaru village.
1 No.	Alape village.
3 Nos.	Akula village.
1 No.	Kallige village.
1 No.	Amtur village Kallingana Rd.
1 No.	Goltamajalu village Manchni Road.
1 No.	Netlamudunur village-Neralakatta.
1 No.	Idikudu village.
1 No.	Kabaka.
(b) for Cattle crossings—38 Nos.	

Malpractices indulged into by Jaipur Udyog Ltd.

7193. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that Jaipur Udyog Limited, Delhi and indulged in a malpractice of purchasing materials at exorbitantly high rates from certain suppliers like. Ashok Cement Limited, Ashoka Steel Limited and other 13 firms during the first quarter of 1973;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) action taken against the Company.

(d) whether it has also been brought to the notice of Government that this company had been placing orders through middle men for its purchases at a very high rate while it could have placed orders with the manufacturers directly at lower rates; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

Enquiry into the working of Jaipur Udyog Ltd.

7194. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 9366 on the 7th May, 1974 regarding enquiry into the working of Jaipur Udyog Ltd. and state:

(a) whether the Jaipur Udyog Ltd. and 74 other companies belonging to Dalmia Jain Group have given the explanations which were called for as Government had found "features that *prima facie* suggest contravention of the Companies Act, 1956 or irregular company practices";

(b) if so, the gist thereof;

(c) action taken against them; and

(d) the results of the investigation ordered into the affairs of Ashoka Marketing Co. Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The investigation into the affairs of M/s. Ashoka Marketing Co. Ltd. under section 237(b) of the Companies Act, 1956 was ordered on 31st Decem-

ber, 1973 The company filed a writ petition before the Delhi High Court challenging the said order, and the High Court has granted interim stay on 6th August, 1974 The stay is in operation

Captive Power Stations for Railway Workshops

7195. SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been decline in the production in Railway workshops due to power cuts,

(b) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to set up captive power generating stations and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) Due to power cuts production in Railway workshops has not been affected in the recent months except in some workshops on Northern, Southern and Eastern Railways In other workshops the workshop timings were revised to match with the power supply timings and thereby the requirements were being met

(b) No, not for workshops

(c) Does not arise

कुकिंग गैस के औद्योगिक उपयोग के कारण इसकी कमी

7196 **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाडेय** क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 'इकानामिक टाइम्स' के 27 फरवरी, 1975 के अंक में छपे उस समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है जिसमें बताया गया है कि कुकिंग गैस औद्योगिक उपयोग में आने के कारण घरेलू उपयोग में इसकी भारी कमी अनुभव की जा रही है, और

(ख) वर्तमान में कुकिंग गैस का वितरण प्रणाली क्या है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सी० पी० मांझी) : (क) जी, हां। इस मंत्रालय ने 17 जून, 1974 को तेल कंपनियों को अनुदेश दिये हैं कि उपलब्धता के आधार पर तदर्थ निकासियों और कुछ प्रौद्योगिकीय कारणों से किसी अन्य इंधन का प्रयोग नहीं किया जा सकता है, को छोड़कर औद्योगिक प्रयोग हेतु, एल० पी० जी० के लिए वचनबद्ध नहीं होना चाहिए।

(ख) हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन बर्माशैल और कैल्टैक्स, अपनी शोधनशालाओं में समस्त एल० पी० जी० को हाथ में लेने के लिए सिलैन्डरों का पर्याप्त सरंजाम भंडारण, बोतल भरना और परिवहन सुविधाओं आदि के साथ वितरण व्यवस्था के शुद्ध क्रय के माध्यम से देश में एल० पी० जी० का विपणन कर रहा है।

इस समय इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन गोहाटी, बरौनी, मद्रास, कोयाली और कोचीन शोधनशालाओं से उत्पादित इंडेन गैस की बिक्री कर रहा है। सरकार की अनुमति से बनाई गई निर्धारित के अनुसार नियंत्रण अपने निजी माध्यम से इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन द्वारा इंडेन का फैक्टर विपणन सिलेंडरों में किया जाता है।

गुजरात फर्टिलाइजर्स द्वारा 'वेस्ट' में फेंका जानेवाला प्रयुक्त रसायन

7197 **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाडेय** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या गुजरात फर्टिलाइजर्स द्वारा उर्वरकों के उत्पादन के बाद प्रयुक्त रसायन का बहुत बड़ा भाग 'वेस्ट' में फेंका जाता है,

(ख) क्या हमें प्रति वर्ष करोड़ों रुपये का नेफ्था बाहर से आयात करना होता है, और यदि हां, तो कितने मूल्य का, और

(ग) क्या इस वेस्ट से नेफ्था तैयार किया जा सकता है और इसके फलस्वरूप नफथा की बचत भी हो सकती है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) गत तीन वर्षों में आयातित/निर्यातित नेफ्था का ब्यौरा निम्न प्रकार था :—

मात्रा 000 मी० टन
मूल्य रुपये/करोड

	आयात		निर्यात	
वर्ष	मात्रा	मूल्य	मात्रा	मूल्य
1972	371	068	शून्य	शून्य
1973	1818	590	44	019
1974	428	168	1237	1209

अत 1974 के दौरान नफथा का शुद्ध निर्यात हुआ था ।

(ग) मैसर्स गुजरात टेस्ट फर्टिलाइजर कंपनी ने कहा कि उनका फर्टिलाइजर फैक्टरी में केवल बड़े पैमाने पर निरन्तर उत्पाद कैल्शियम आरबानेट स्लज है किन्तु वे मैसर्स सम्बद्ध सीमेन्ट इण्डस्ट्रीज को इसे सीमेन्ट बनाने के लिए बेचा जा रहा है । इसके अलावा कैल्शियम आरबानेट स्लज से नैफ्था का निर्माण नहीं किया जा सकता है ।

रेल अधिनियम का संशोधन

7198 **डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाण्डेय** : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या "रेल अधिनियम' के आधुनिक रूप देने के लिए एक व्यापक विधेयक लाने का सरकार का विचार है,

(ख) क्या उक्त अधिनियम अत्यधिक पुराना है और इसमें काफी संशोधन हो चुके हैं और इन्हें समेकित करने और कुछ नये संशोधन करने की दृष्टि से ऐसा करना जरूरी है, और

(ग) यदि हां तो ऐसा कब तक किया जायेगा ?

रेल मन्त्रालय में उप मन्त्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) जी हां ।

(ग) प्रयत्न यह है कि इस काम को यथाशीघ्र पूरा किया जाये ?

Upper class berths/seats in Kirti Express Somnath Mail and Dwarka Mail

7199 **SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY**

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

(a) how many upper class berths/seats are provided on each of these trains Somnath Mail and Dwarka Mail

(b) whether upper class conductors are provided on each of these trains to look after the passengers

(c) if not why and what action is proposed to be taken in this regard, and

(d) by what time upper class conductors will be provided on them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a) First class berths' seats provided on these trains are as under

		Berths	Seats
35Up) 36Dn)	Kirti Express	62	93
23Up) 24Dn)	Somnath Mail	60	90
39UP) 40Dn)	Dwarka Mail	18	27

(b) No.

(c) Conductors are provided mostly on very important Mail and Express trains. Coach Attendants in full corridor type first class coaches and Travelling Ticket Examiners in second class sleeper coaches provided on these trains cater to needs of passengers adequately.

(d) There is no such proposal.

Powers and Grade given to Divisional Superintendents

7200. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY:

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently powers and grades have been given to Divisional Superintendents almost matching with those of General Managers;

(b) in view of the above, whether the Railways have considered abolition/reduction of Zones, so as to effect economy in the expenditures incurred on the offices of General Managers; and

(c) expenditure incurred on various offices of General Managers during the last three years, year-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

मई, 1974 की हड़ताल में भाग लेने के कारण बर्खास्त किये गये रेलवे मजदूर संघ के नेता

7201. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने मई, 1974 की हड़ताल में भाग लेने के कारण कुछ रेल मजदूर नेताओं एवं अन्य कर्मचारियों को नौकरी से बर्खास्त कर दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी रेलवे-वार संख्या कितनी है तथा बर्खास्त नेताओं एवं कर्मचारियों के जोनवार नाम क्या हैं ;

(ग) जिन कर्मचारियों को नौकरी से बर्खास्त किया गया है वे रेलवे के किन संगठनों एवं यूनियनों से सम्बन्धित हैं ;

(घ) उन कर्मचारियों की बर्खास्तगी के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ङ) क्या सरकार ने उन्हें नौकरी में नहीं लेने का अन्तिम रूप से निर्णय ले लिया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) से (ङ) : जी नहीं ; किंतु मई, 1974 की गैर कानूनी हड़ताल के दौरान दण्डनीय अपराधों सहित गम्भीर किस्म के आरोपों के आधार पर लगभग 16,700 रेल कर्मचारियों को बरखास्त कर दिया गया/नौकरी से हटा दिया गया था। इनमें से लगभग 15,200 कर्मचारियों को काम पर वापस लिया जा चुका है। शेष कर्मचारी तोड़-फोड़, हिंसा और डराने-धमकाने की कार्रवाइयों से सम्बन्धित हैं। उनकी अपीलों पर गुण-दोष के आधार पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार किया जा रहा है।

जिन यूनियनों को मान्यता प्राप्त नहीं है उनके पदाधिकारियों तथा उनसे सम्बन्धित कर्मचारियों के नाम नहीं रखे जाते। मान्यता-प्राप्त यूनियनों के पदाधिकारियों के नाम रखे जाते हैं लेकिन वे तत्काल उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

पूर्व रेलवे के दण्डित किये गये कर्मचारी

7202. **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मई 1974 की रेल हड़ताल में भाग लेने के कारण पूर्व रेलवे में जिन मजदूरों को नौकरी से बर्खास्त मअत्तिल रिमूव (मुक्त) किया गया तथा जिनकी सेवा में व्यवधान हुआ था उनकी मंडलवार-संख्या क्या है;

(ख) जिन मजदूरों पर से उक्त कार्यवाहिया रद्द कर दी गई है उनकी मडलवार संख्या कितनी है ,

(ग) जो मजदूर अभी भी सरकारी दण्डों के शिकार है उनकी मडल-वार सख्या क्या है ; और

(घ) उनके दण्डों को रद्द नही करने के कारण क्या है तथा सरकार उनके बारे मे क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मत्री (श्री बूटा सिह) : (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है ।

[ग्रथालय में रखा गया देखिए सख्या एल० टी० 9492/75]

(घ) सरकार की घोषित नीति के अनुसार तोड -फोड हिसा अथवा डराने-धमकाने के मामलो को छोडकर उनके अपराधो के सम्बन्ध मे उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनाया जा रहा है और रेल प्रशासन शेष मामलों की छान-बीन यथाशीघ्र करनेका भरसक प्रयास कर रहे है ।

मई, 1974 की हड़ताल मे भाग लेने के कारण रेल कर्मचारियो का स्थानान्तरण

7203 **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** क्या रेल मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि

(क) क्या मई 1974 की हडताल मे भाग लेने के कारण जिन रेल कर्मचारियो के विरुध कार्यवाहिया की गई थ उन कार्यवाहियो को रद्द करने के बाद रेल अधिकारियों ने उन मे से बहुतो को सबक सिखाने पर एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर स्थानान्तरित किया है ,

(ख) यदि हा तो ऐसे कर्मचारियो की जोन-वार सख्या कितनी है ,

(ग) क्या रेल प्रशासन की इस मजदूर-विरोधी नीति के विरुद्ध किसी कम्युनिस्ट सदस्य ने वैसे मजदूरो के नाम की सूची के साथ कोई पत्र लिखा है , और

(घ) यदि हा तो सरकार की इस सम्बन्ध मे क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिह) : (क) और (ख) जी नही लेकिन बहाल किये गये 15,200 स्थायी-अस्थायी कर्मचारियो मे से लगभग 1360 को पूर्णत: प्रशासनिक आधार पर अन्यत्र तैनात किया गया है ।

(ग) और (घ) जी हा बहाली पर कर्मचारियो के स्थानान्तरण के सम्बन्ध मे ससद सदस्यो से पत्र प्राप्त हुए है । ये स्थानान्तरण प्रशासनिक आधार पर किये गये है और इन्हे श्रमिक विरोध नही माना जा सकता ।

धनबाद स्थित कैरेज वैगन विभाग के कर्मचारियों द्वारा मंडलीय अधीक्षक धनबाद के कार्यालय के सामने प्रदर्शन

7204 **श्री रामावतार शास्त्री** : क्या रेल मत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि

(क) क्या 17 मार्च 1975 को पूर्व रेलवे के धनबाद डिवीजन के कैरेज-वैगन विभाग मे काम करने वाले रेल कर्मचारियो ने रेलवे के मडलीय कार्यालय के सामने शातिमय तरीके से प्रदर्शन किया था ,

(ख) यदि हा तो मजदूरो की मागे क्या थी ,

(ग) क्या मडलीय अधीक्षक ने प्रदर्शनकारी मजदूरो से ज्ञापन लेने से इकार कर दिया था,

(घ) यदि हा तो क्यो और क्या ऐसा करना उचित था , और

(ड) यदि नही तो सरकार ने उत्तरदायी अधिकारी के विरुद्ध कौन-सी कार्यवाही की है ?

रेलमंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिह) : (क) जी हा ।

(ख) से (घ) इस प्रदर्शन का आयोजन धनबाद क्षेत्र की तथाकथित सवारी और माल डिब्बा कर्मचारी परिषद ने किया था । चूकि

यह एक गैर-मान्यताप्राप्त कोटिवार संगठन है इसलिए ज्ञापन स्वीकार करने से इन्कार कर दिया गया। यह पता चला है कि यह मांग की गयी थी कि सवारी डिब्बा फौरमैन पतरातू के अधीन जिस एवजी कर्मचारी की सेवाएं समाप्त कर दी गयी है उसे काम पर लगाये रखा जाये। कर्मचारी पूर्णत: इस बात से अवगत है कि शिकायतों को दूर करवाने के लिए एक सुस्थापित व्यवस्था विद्यमान है और प्रदर्शन जैसी कार्रवाई का सहारा लेना ठीक नहीं है।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Cuts in allocation of kerosene oil to states

7205. SHRI K. MALLANNA. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state.

(a) the number of occasions on which and the extent to which cuts in the allocation of kerosene oil quota to the State Governments were imposed by the Central Government during the year 1973-74 and the extent of cut, if any, imposed during the current year.

(b) the reasons for these cuts and what is its impact on the consumers as a whole; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to remove the cuts imposed in the allocation of kerosene oil to avoid hardship to the consumers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) Following cuts were imposed on kerosene oil quotas of the States during 1973-74:—

Months	%age of cut imposed
May, 1973	25
June, 1973	10
November, 1973	10
January, 1974	15
February, 1974	20
March, 1974	15

During 1974-75, uniform cuts were imposed on kerosene quotas of all States ranging from 20% to 30% from April to August, 1974. From September, 1974, the scheme of uniform cuts was changed to give due weightage to special features affecting kerosene consumption in the States. A reduction of 15% was made in the overall quantity allocated to States during September and October, 1974; the maximum cut on any State being 25%. From November, 1974, the cuts were reduced further to an average of 10% with the maximum reduced to 15%

(b) These cuts in kerosene quotas became necessary to conserve foreign exchange out-go for import of crude oil and other petroleum products. During the early part of the year when cuts ranging between 20% to 30% were applied, reports of shortage were received from various State Governments. However, since November 1974, there have been no serious complaints of kerosene shortage in the States.

(c) Within the foreign exchange allocation made for 1975-76, it will not be possible to increase kerosene oil supplies to the States beyond the levels adopted from November, 1974.

SC/ST candidates qualified in engineering services examination, 1974

7206. SHRI P. M. SAYED: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates qualified in written papers in the Engineering Services Examinations, 1974, but dropped in the interviews for personality test;

(b) whether in recruitment even to IAS, IPS and other Central Services, Scheduled Caste/Tribe candidates are not rejected in personality test if they pass in written test; and

(c) if so, why personality test is considered more important than technical knowledge for these technical jobs, at least in case of Scheduled Caste/Tribe candidates who, due to their weak economic conditions, are not generally expected to have good personality?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) On the results of the written part of the Engineering Services Examination, 1974, 56 Scheduled Caste candidates and 2 Scheduled Tribe candidates qualified for Personality Test. On the final results of the examination, 30 Scheduled Caste candidates and 1 Scheduled Tribe candidate have been recommended by the Union Public Service Commission for appointment to various services/posts which are to be filled on the basis of this examination.

(b) There are no minimum qualifying marks for the Personality Test in the Engineering Services Examinations and the I.A.S. and Allied Services Examinations; the order of merit of the candidates who finally qualify in these examinations is determined on the basis of the aggregate of the marks obtained in the written examination and in the Personality Test by candidates. Thus it is possible for a candidate to be recommended for appointment even without scoring any marks in the Personality Test.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign companies which established business in India During 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75.

7207. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign companies which established business in the country during 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75 respectively;

(b) the particulars regarding their capital, extent of Indian share capital and the items to be produced by them and other terms and conditions; and

(c) the names of foreign companies which have closed their business activities in India during 1972-73, 1973-74 and 1974-75, yearwise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) Eleven foreign companies as defined under section 591 of the Companies Act, 1956 were reported to have established their places of business in India in 1972-73, five in 1973-74 and six in 1974-75. Details about their names, the capital of their parent companies and their main line of industrial activity in India are given in Statement I laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT* 9493/75.]

Since these companies are incorporated outside India, the extent of the Indian share capital in their total paidup capital was not required to be furnished under the provisions of the Companies Act prior to coming into force of Companies Amendment Act, 1974 on 1-2-75. The terms and conditions under which these branches of foreign companies have to operate in India are spelt out in Sections 591 to 608 in part XI of the Companies Act, 1956.

(c) Fourteen foreign companies were reported to have closed their places of business in India in 1972-73, three in 1973-74 and thirty six in 1974-75. The names of these companies are given in Statement II, laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT* 9493/75.]

Amendment of Election Laws

7208. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether printing of posters of Service Chiefs with an election symbol has been described as an "impropriety" by the Supreme Court in an election case;

(b) whether making promises about starting projects, laying foundation stones etc. has been described as an "evil" practice by the same court in an earlier decision;

(c) whether Government would amend the law bringing "improprieties" and "evil practices" of the type referred to in (a) and (b) under the term "corrupt practice"; and

(d) if not the reason for not amending the law ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI) : (a) The actual observation of the Supreme Court is as follows :—

> "The publication of posters bearing the photographs of the Prime Minister, Defence Minister, Foreign Minister and three Service Chiefs was an act of impropriety but not a corrupt practice falling within the mischief of section 123 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

(b) The relevant extract from the earlier judgment of the Supreme Court is as follows :—

> "To arrange to spend money on the eve of elections in different constituencies, although for general public good is when all is said and done, an evil practice. The dividing line between an evil practice and a corrupt practice is a very thin one. It should be understood that energy to do public good should be used not on the eve of elections but much earlier and that even slight evidence might change this evil practice into corrupt practice. Payments from discretionary grants on the eve of elections should be avoided."

(c) and (d) The aforesaid observations denote what, in the opinion of the Supreme Court, may convert an evil practice into a corrupt practice. But there could be varying shades of opinion as to what could and should be properly construed as an evil practice, and, hence, the question of amending the law in this behalf does not arise.

Railway Quarters for Class III and IV Staff at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras

7209. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4858 on the 17th December, 1974 regarding Railway quarters for class III and IV staff at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes.

(b) The particulars are indicated in the statement attached.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

		Bombay		Calcutta		Delhi		Madras	
		Class III	Class IV	Class III	Class IV	Class III	Class IV	Class III	Class IV
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
(a) Total number of railway quarters constructed from 1972 uptill now in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras area for Class III and IV railway staff ,		420	402	267	70	353	509	348	247
(b) Number of these quarters allotted to Class IV and III staff separately for Signal & Telecom.. Operating and Loco Departments	(i Sig &Tele	16	8	18		7	5	8	19
	(ii Operating	90	17	19	4	13	..	53	45
	(iii) Loco	178	90	23	3	3	.	60	30
(c) Number of employees of Signal & Telecom Department promoted from Class IV to Class III posts who are still occupying type I accomodation since 1970 upto date in Cities mentioned in Part (a), and		43		59		18		21	
(d) Action taken to allot these type II accommodation to solve housing problem of Class IV Staff.		There is no uniform procedure on the Railways. The practice differs from Railway to Railway keeping in view their local conditions. However, generally as and when type II quarters become available, promotees from Class IV to Class III occupying type I units are accommodated and type I units thus released are allotted to Class IV staff. For this purpose "essential staff" who are required to attend duty at odd hours are given priority in allotment of quarters.							

Leave Reserve and Restgiver Staff for Maintainers, S & T Department on certain Railways

7210. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4859 on the 17th December, 1974 regarding leave reserve and restgiver staff for Maintainers, S&T Department on Northern, North Eastern, Western Southern and South Central Railways and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9494A/75*].

Training School for Class III and IV S and T Staff Over various Zonal Railways

7211. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any training school for Signalling and Tele-communications staff Class IV and Class III exists over the Northern, Western, Southern, North-Eastern and South-Central Railways:

(b) if so, what categories of staff are given training and what are the details of various training courses undertaken by these training schools and of incentive to staff who passes the training;

(c) what is the medium of instructions of these training; schools and the maximum capacity of trainees who can get training at a time in these schools;

(d) whether necessary arrangements of boarding and lodging are made for the trainees; and

(e) whether the trainees are being provided literature regarding latest installations of Signalling and Telecommunication and if so, the salient features thereof ?

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THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Maintenance of Standby Diesel Generator at Railway Stations

7212. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Standby Diesel Generator at various Railway Stations, for Signalling and Telecommunication Circuits were being previously maintained by Electical Department and now the same are being maintained by Signal and Telecommunication Department;

(b) if so, what is the number of staff (i) surrendered by Electrical Department, (ii) transferred from Electrical Department to Signal and Telecommunication Department, (iii) additional staff sanctioned to Signal and Telecommunication Department, category-wise and Zone-wise over the Indian Railways;

(c) what was the reason of transferring this job from Electrical Department to Signal and Telecommunication Department; and

(d) what are the proposals to train Signal and Telecommunication Staff for Diesel Generators, category-wise and whether the staff will be given some benefit for this additional job ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) In most of the Divisions on the Indian Railways Diesel Generator Sets, which are part and parcel of the Signalling and Telecommunication installations are maintained by the staff of the Signalling and Telecommunication Department, who are responsible for the maintenance of the Signalling and Telecommunication installations.

In certain areas of the Northern Railway, where Electircal Depatment was supposed to maintain these sets, the Signalling and Telecommunication staff

have taken over the attention to diesel generating sets and for this purpose, 1 Signal Inspctor and 7 diesel maintainers have been posted. Since Electrical Department were not maintaining the diesel generating sets, the question of the Electrical Department surrendering any posts did not arise.

(c) Diesel Generating sets are part and parcel of the Signalling & Telecommunication installations, and they come into play occasionally in the event of a power failure.

(d) Such signalling and tele-communication installations, as required the Diesel Generating sets as standby, have to receive frequent attention by signal and tele-communication maintainers and Diesel Generating sets also, being part of the installation, have to be attended to by them. For this purpose, their training programme includes this aspect of work also.

Overcrowding in Legal Profession

7213. SHRI RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the overcrowding in the legal profession and resultant decline in professional standards; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) No. Sir, Government have not made any assessment of overcrowding in the legal profession and resultant decline in professional standards since the passing of the Advocate Act, 1961.

(b) Does not arise.

Collision of Truck with Bombay Express beyond Mohri Station

7214. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA :

SHRI D. D. DESAI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 5 persons were killed when a truck collided with speeding Bombay Express on the 21st March, 1975 at an unmanned level crossing beyond the Mohri Railway Station on the Ambala-Delhi sector of the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes

(b) At about 15.47 hours on 21-3-1975, truck No. PUG 5313 collided with train No. 58 Down Amritsar Express at unmanned level crossing No. 100-C between Mohri-Shahbad Markanda stations on Delhi-Ambala Cantt Section on Delhi Division of Northern Railway. Five occupants of the truck including the truck Driver were killed.

Proposal to Modernise Burdwan Station

7216 SHRI TUNA ORAON Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any provision for remodelling of Burdwan station during the Fifth Plan period;

(b) the average number of passengers who use this station and the number of trains that move in this station every day;

(c) facilities available for the passengers in the station; and

(d) the salient features of the work contemplated to modernise the station?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) (i) About 8,355 passengers per day.

(ii) 94 trains.

(c) The facilities available for the passengers at the station are as under:—

Waiting Rooms

Upper Class gentlemen	2 Nos.
Upper Class ladies	1 No.
Waiting hall	1 No.
Lavatorie gentlemen	25 Seats
Lavatories ladies	10 Seats

Drinking Water—In addition to the provision of one water cooler there are four water trolleys and 38 buckets for supply of water to passengers.

Retiring Rooms : 3 retiring rooms with 8 beds.

Booking Counters : 5 Nos.

Catering arrangements : Food, both of Indian and Western style, is available in the refreshment room. Tea, snacks etc. are also available from departmental vendors and hawkers.

(d) Does not arise.

Russian Experts visit for MTP (Railways) and Indian Teams visit abroad

7217 SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether number of teams of Russian experts have visited India for M.T.P. (Railways), Calcutta; if so, the cost and expenditure incurred for their travels to India and details of reports of these teams; and

(b) the cost involved on Indian teams who visited U. S. S. R. and West Germany and the details of reports thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes. 3 teams of Soviet experts have visited India so far. The total cost incurred for their visits is Rs. 4,86,000/- only. The first team (early 1971) recommended construction of Dum Dum—Tollyganj Underground as the first metro line for Calcutta. The second team (early 1972) reviewed and approved the Report prepared by M. T. P. (Railways) Organisation for Dum Dum—Tollyganj Rapid Transit System and recommended its construction.

The third team (June'74) identified the scope of Soviet co-operation and assistance in the construction of the Calcutta sub-way Project.

(b) The cost involved in the visits of Indian teams to USSR and a few other countries was Rs. 2,46,000/- only. The first Indian team which went to USSR, U.K., France, Japan, Sweden, Hungary and West Germany in 1972 was on a study-cum-observation tour for acquainting itself with metro practices abroad, identifying construction equipments suitable for import and facilities required for training of Indian Engineers abroad.

The second team's visit to U.K., France, West Germany, Sweden and Japan in late 1972 was in connection with selection of rolling stock designs and suitable electric traction technology with a view to their adoption and indigenous manufacture in this country.

The third team visited USSR in 1973 in order to clarify to the Soviet side the details of import requirements, consultancy and training assistance and also to study further the Soviet rolling stock and signalling systems.

Negligence of Railway Board for M.T.P., Calcutta

7218. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to negligence of Railway Board, Metropolitan Transport Project, Calcutta, has been over-delayed despite assurances given by the Prime Minister and other authorities including Chief Minister, West Bengal for early execution of the said Project and the completion thereof by the year 1980;

(b) why there has been delay in awarding works of different sections or divisions in accordance with tenders called;

(c) the number of tenders called and opened so far and how many of them have been finally decided; and

(d) the number of tenders remaining undecided and the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Due to the uncertain availability of resources for the Project.

(c) 46 tenders out of 128 opened have been finally decided.

(d) The remaining tenders will be considered as soon as the availability of resources improves

Import of Drugs by Foreign Companies

7220 SHRI S R DAMANI Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the brief particulars of imports allowed to foreign drug manufacturing companies in the country during the last three years, together with items and value in each case;

(b) how many similar items are produced in the country and by whom, and

(c) the reasons for granting permission to the import of those very items by the foreign companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K R GANESH) (a) Particulars of all import licences issued including those to foreign companies viz, names and addresses of parties, item of import, value etc. are published in the "Weekly Bulletin of Industrial Licences, Import Licences and Export Licences" copies of which are regularly made available to the Parliament Library. However, information regarding the major items of imports cleared by the Directorate General of Technical Develpoment, their quantity and value during the past three years in favour of foreign companies is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

कम्पनी अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत दोषी पाई गई सरकारी कम्पनियां

7221. श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वर्ष 1973, वर्ष 1974 और वर्ष 1975 में कम्पनी अधिनियम, 1956 के अन्तर्गत दोषी पायी गयी सरकारी कम्पनियों की संख्या और नाम क्या है, ये कम्पनियां किन धाराओं के अधिन दोषी पायी गयी तथा इन कम्पनियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है और इसके क्या परिणाम निकले ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य उपमंत्री (श्री बेदब्रत बरुआ) : सूचना संग्रह की जा रही है वह सदन के पटल पर प्रस्तुत कर दी जायेगी ।

गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान राजस्थान में बिछाई गई नई रेलवे लाईनें

7222 श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान राजस्थान में कोई नई रेलवे लाइन बिछायी गई है अथवा किसी नेरो गेज लाइन को ब्राड गेज लाइन में बदला गया है अथवा किसी नये रेलवे स्टेशन का निर्माण किया गया है; अथवा कोई नई रेल गाडी चलाई गई है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे कौन कौन सी है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) और (ख) डावला से सिंघाना तक (मीटर आमान) तक नयी रेलवे लाइन का निर्माण पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान पूरा हो गया है । यह संक्षेप: राजस्थान में है । जून, 1974 से इस

लाइन को यातायात के लिए खोला गया है । इस अवधि में किसी भी मीटर लाइन को बडी लाइन में परिवर्तित नही किया गया है ।

इस अवधि के दौरान राजस्थान में बडी और मीटर लाइनो पर निम्नलिखित बारह नये हाल्ट । फ्लैग स्टेशन खोले गये है ·

(1) मोतीपुरा–चोकी
(2) धिन्धोना–हलमियाहेडा
(3) नागला टोला
(4) जय चोली
(5) सालासाह थाना
(6) डीलीजाट कार्खेरा
(7) पनेटिया
(8) मडपिया
(9) घासीहार
(10) मजनीवाला
(11) जोरकिन
(12) पहासर

देगाना–फुलेरा के बीच चलने वाली एक जोडी गाडियो । जे डी पी । 2 जे डी पी को मेडता रोड और बीकानेर के बीच चलने वाली 1 जे एम वी / 2 जे एम वी के साथ मिलाकर और उसका नम्बर बदलकर । जे बी एफ / 2 जे बी एफ करके । उसका विस्तार बीकानेर तक कर दिया गया है जिससे बीकानेर–मेडता रोड खड पर अतिरिक्त सेवा की व्यवस्था हो जाती है । गाडियों की दूसरी जोडी अर्थात अहमदाबाद उदयपुर सिटी क बीच चलने वाली 86 डाउन / 85 अप का विस्तार चित्तोडगढ तक कर दिया गया है ।

औषधियो के आयात को कम से कम करन की योजना

7233. **श्री मूलचन्द डागा** क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेगे कि :

(क) इस समय देश में कितनी मूल्यों की औषधियों का आयात किया जा रहा है, गत तीन वर्षों में कितने मूल्य की औषधियों का निर्यात किया गया और इन औषधियों के नाम क्या हैं ?

(ख) क्या सरकार द्वारा औषधियो के आयात को कम से कम करने की कोई योजना बनाई गई है अथवा बनाई जाने वाली है, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मत्रालय में राज्य मत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) सभी जारी किए गए आयात लाइसेसो के ब्योरे जिसमे विदेशी औषधियो और उनके मूल्य आदि शामिल है, "वीकली बुलेटिन आफ इन्डस्ट्रियल लाइसेस, इम्पोर्ट लाइसेस एण्ड एक्सपोर्ट लाइसेस" में प्रकाशित किए जात है, जिसकी प्रतिया नियमित रूप से ससद पुस्तकालय को भेजी जाती है ।

(ख) और (ग) औषधो का आयात देश मे उन औषधो के घरेलू उत्पादन पर आधारित है । इस समय अधिकतर सारा आयात प्रपुज औषधो और औषध मध्यवर्ती के लिए होता है । सूत्रयोगों के आयात की अनुमति केवल विशिष्ट परिस्थितियों और नगण्य मात्रा तथा मूल्य के लिए दी जाती है ।

इस समय देश मे प्रपुज औषध उत्पादन का मूल्य लगभग 60 करोड़ रुपये है जिसकी पाचवी योजना की अवधि के दौरान 150 करोड रुपये तक बढ जाने का प्रस्ताव है । इसमे से उत्पादन मे वृद्धि सरकारी सयत्रो अर्थात् आई डी पी एल तथा एच ए एल द्वारा लगभग 78 करोड़ रुपय होगी ।

पांचवी योजना के दौरान सभी उद्योगों के विकास के लिए विभिन्न कार्यकारी

दल योजना आयोग द्वारा नियुक्त किए गए है जिसमें से औषध एव भेषज पर कार्यकारी दल एक है । योजना आयोग को 1973 में प्रस्तुत की गई इस रिपोर्ट ने अन्य बातों के साथ प्रपुंज औषधों और रसायन तथा मध्यवर्ती उत्पादन में तादात्म्य स्थापित किया है जिनकी वृद्धि अपेक्षित है या देश में नए रूप में स्थापित किए गए है और पांचवी योजना के दौरान प्रत्येक औषध की मांग और विदेशी प्रोद्योगिकी आदि के लिए आवश्यकता को भी तैयार किया है सरकार ने उद्योगों के लिए मार्गदर्शन भी प्रकाशित किया है जिसमें औषध एव भेषज शामिल है और प्रस्तुत की गई सूचना में पांचवी योजना मे अपेक्षित क्षमता तथा उद्यमकर्ताओं के लिए मार्गदर्शन हेतु सूचना दी गई है ।

सरकार ने औषध उद्योग के विभिन्न पहलुओं की जांच करने के लिए फरवरी 1974 म औषध एंव भेषज उद्योग पर एक समिति गठित की है । समिति, जिसने अपनी रिपोर्ट 6 अप्रेल, 1975 म प्रस्तुत की थी, उसने 117 अनिवार्य सूम्रयोगों को अभिन्न समझा है और जिनका उत्पादन बढाया जाना है अथवा इन सूत्रयोगो के उत्पादन के लिए अपेक्षित प्रपज औषध सक्रीय उत्पादनों के निर्माण हेतु परम प्राथमिकता देते हुए पर्याप्त मात्रा में लिए गए है । सरकार ने इस संबध में कार्रवाई पहले ही आरम्भ कर दी है । नए औषधो को विकसित करने के ध्यान मे रख कर अनुसधान बेस का विकास करने के लिए भारत में प्रयास किए जा रहे है ताकि देश में औषधों के लिए बढती हुई मांग के पूरा किसा जा सके और यथा सभव आयातोंपर निर्भरता से बचा जाए। कार्यक्रम में सरकारी क्षेत्र तथा गैर सरकारी क्षेत्र और विशेषकर भारतीय क्षेत्र में पांचवी योजना अवधि के दौरान उत्पादन को दुगना करना शामिल है और अत: इसमें वह हमें आत्म निर्भरता के लक्ष्य के निकट ले जाएगा ।

Shortage of Cooking Gas in Bihar and Other States

7224. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute shortage of cooking gas and the worst ever scarcity in Patna (Bihar's capital) due to irregular and delayed supply of cylinders by the distributers concerned, appointed by Indian Oil;

(b) whether the shortage of cooking gas is artificial and it takes 20 to 30 days to get the refill from the selling agents;

(c) whether such long delay in supply by the agents has led to large scale black marketing by the selling agents; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to end the shortage of cooking gas in Bihar and other States in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) and (b) Some delay in supply of refills to consumers for about two weeks was reported in the last month. Supply situation has since improved and refill deliveries in Patna are at present taking place without delay.

(c) There have been no definite complaints in this regard.

(d) Position of refill supplies in Patna is at present normal. Regarding steps proposed to be taken to end the shortage of cooking gas in the country, reply given to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2127 on 4-3-1975 may kindly be referred to.

Train accident on Patratu-Barkakana Section

7225. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a serious accident in Dhanbad Division of Eastern Railway, 70 k.m. from Hazaribagh, on

Patratu-Barkakana section on the 21st March, 1975 killing all the members of the crew including the Guard of the goods trains;

(b) if so, the causes of the accident and steps taken by the Railway authorities to check its recurrence; and

(c) what amount has been paid as compensation to the kin of the deceased and what action has been taken against those found responsible for the accident ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes. A goods train ran into a loaded bullock cart which had been abandoned on the railway track between Patratu and Bhurkunda stations on the Eastern Railway on 21-3-1975. As a result of the accident, the Guard and the two Firemen were killed but the Driver escaped with minor injuries.

(b) A coal loaded bullock cart trespassed and was abandoned on the railway track by an unknown person. The railway line near the accident spot has now been provided with deep channels and stakes on both sides to prevent unauthorised movement of vehicles or bullock carts. Police authorities have also been alerted with a view to prosecuting tress-passers.

(c) No railway staff has been held responsible. Arrangements are being made to pay necessary compensation due to the dependents of the three deceased railway employees.

Train accident on Tata-Muri-Barkakana Section

7226. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a serious accident took place on the 24th March, 1975 when two goods trains collided on the Tata-Muri-Barkakana Section of the South Eastern Railway, killing many railway staff and crew;

(b) whether there had been increase in the railway accidents recently in the country;

(c) if so, the causes of the accident, the loss of the railway property and compensation paid to the kin of the deceased; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against such officers responsible for the accidents and to check the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes. As a result of the accident 4 persons (railway staff) were killed on the spot and 1 (the Driver) received grievous injury.

(b) and (c) The incidence of train accidents has registered an increase during the year 1974-75 as compared with 1973-74 largely because of labour unrest culminating in the All India Railwaymen's strike in May, 1974 which affected maintenance of rolling stock, track and more particularly discipline among the railwaymen.

Accidents are caused by the failure of railway staff, negligence of outsiders, failure of equipment, sabotage and tampering with track or combination of factors etc.

As a result of accidents, the damage to railway property during 1974-75 has been estimated at Rs. 2,52,02,682, approximately and Rs. 3,35,500 has been paid so far as compensation to the next of kin of the deceased, under Indian Railways Act. During the year 1974-75, the Railways also paid a sum of Rs. 2,10,000 as compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act to the dependents of the deceased railway employees who were killed in these accidents.

(d) Thorough enquiries are held into all accidents and suitable disciplinary action is taken against the defaulters. Safety Organisation has been engaged in inculcating safety consciousness amongst the staff connected with the running of trains in order to ensure that the staff do not violate safety rules or indulge in shortcut methods. Special drives are launched from time to time

for this purpose. Great emphasis has also been laid on the initial as well as refresher training of the staff.

Thefts in Samastipur-Delhi Express Train

7227. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Jayanti Janta Samastipur-Delhi Express Train has started loosing its popularity because of continued thefts of passengers' luggage from the train and attachment of general and old bogies to the train;

(b) whether the train thefts have become a daily affair, mostly at Samastipur, due to the lack of police arrangements; and

(c) if so, what immediate steps Government propose to take to check the increasing thefts in this train, as well as other fast trains in the country ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No. There have been only three cases of thefts of passengers' property on this train during 1975.

(b) No.

(c) Government Railway Police escorts are provided to all important trains passing through vulnerable sections.

Introduction of New Trains during the Months of March to May, 1975

7228. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have introduced or propose to introduce any new trains during the months of March to May, 1975 for movement of passengers; and

(b) if so, how many new trains have been introduced so far and how many more are likely to be introduced during the above period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) One Express train has been introduced between New Delhi and Varanasi from 30th March, 1975 and one weekly Jayanti Janata Express is proposed to be introduced between New Delhi and Secunderabad from the first week of May, 1975 as a regular measure. In addition, subject to traffic offering, about 470 holiday special trains are proposed to be run on various routes in order to clear the extra rush of traffic during the summer months from April to July 1975.

Railway accidents during March 1974 and 1975

7229. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been a large number of Railway accidents in the month of March, 1975 as compared to those in March last year; and

(b) if so, whether this is because of introducing of fast trains and negligence of the staff ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) During the month of March, 1975, there were 77 train accidents in the categories of collisions, derailments, level crossing accidents and fires in trains against 63 such accidents during the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) No direct relationship is discernible between the incidence of accidents and introduction of fast trains. Failure of human element has always been the largest single factor responsible for accidents.

Oil Exploration in Tamil Nadu

7230. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether exploration of more oil wells is being planned in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether in view of the spudding of the first well in Mandapam by the

Oil and Natural Gas Commission, a new strategy is being planned by the Commission;

(c) if so, the steps that are being considered to find oil in the State; and

(d) whether more funds have been allotted for the purpose ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) to (d) It is ONGC's effort to explore for oil wherever it is considered feasible on geological considerations. So far 12 exploratory wells have been drilled in Tamil Nadu State. In addition to the well presently being drilled at Mandapam, ONGC have *inter-alia* made provision of funds, for drilling 2 more oil exploratory wells one each at Karaikal and Tiruthuraipundi during the current financial year.

Setting up of Fertilizer Plants in Tamil Nadu

7231. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government are considering to have more fertilizer plants in the State of Tamil Nadu in 1975 or 1976;

(b) whether these fertilizer plants are being set up with the help of some foreign countries;

(c) if so, the broad features of the proposed plants likely to be set up in the State;

(d) whether the existing fertilizer plants are also being considered for expansion; and

(e) if so, the names of fertilizer plants likely to be expanded during the Fifth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) to (c) A proposal is under consideration for the grant of a Letter of intent to M/s Kothari (Madras) Ltd., for the setting up of facilities for production of 21,000 tonnes per annum of fertilizer grade ammonium chloride by utilising bye-product chloride obtained in the manufacture of caustic soda. No foreign collaboration is envisaged.

(d) and (e) Government have approved the expansion of the Madras Fertilizers Ltd., plant for the production of NPK fertilizer.

MRTP Commission's Decision on the Payment of Differential Incentive Bonus Based on the Quantity of Purchases made over a period

7232. SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has held that the payment of differential incentive bonus based on the quantity of purchases made over a period is a restrictive trade practice;

(b) whether a number of complaints have been received by the Registrar of Restrictive Trade Practices to the effect that most of the Companies are offering such kind of differential incentive;

(c) if so, the particulars of the cases pending before the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission in this regard; and

(d) whether any final decision has been taken by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission thereon and what action is being taken against these Companies ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House. The question of any action being taken does not arise as the inquiry by the M.R.T.P. Commission in these cases is still in progress. Any violation of the orders of the Commission in such cases is liable to the penalties provided in section 50 of the M.R.TP. Act, 1969.

Statement

S.No.	Name of undertaking in respect of which a restrictive trade practice inquiry has been instituted by the M.R.T.P. Commission.	Nature of differential incentive bonus etc.
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	I.T.C. Ltd. & Vazir Sultan Tobacco Co.	Varying and special trade margins.
2	Raymond Woollen Mills Ltd. (J.K. Engg. Files Division), Bombay.	Discrimination in giving discounts, and turnover bonus.
3	Singer Sewing Machine Co. Ltd., Bombay	Granting discounts and other benefits on the basis of turnover including minimum turnover.
4	N.M. Tripathi Pvt. Ltd., Bombay	Discrimination in the rates of discounts on law books between buyers and buyers and giving discounts on sale of law book at a rate lower than the rate at which discount is given in the book trade.
5	Bata India Ltd.	Apart from allowing discounts at specified rates for different categories of Footwear (*i.e.* 8.25% for leather chappal and Hawaii wedge categories and 8.5% on other categories), an additional discount at 1% of total turnover is allowed to the whole-salers. Further, if the total turnover exceeds a stipulated amount, an extra discount of 1% of the excess amount is given.
6	Bajaj Electricals Ltd.	In addition to trade discount fixed by the company from time to time, a "special discount" of 1½% is given to dealers provided their annual purchase (except for lamps and tubes) reach or exceed the targets fixed by the company.
7	Tata Engineering & Locomotive Co. Ltd.	The rates of discounts are 18% on spare parts and 10% on aggregates. An additional discount of 1% is allowed on bulk orders for a value of Rs. 2 lakhs and above. To qualify for the additional discount of 1%, Bulk orders must include orders for non-critical parts for a minimum value of Rs. 1.50 lakhs.

Decision to set up Panel to Deal with Thefts in Railways

7233. SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large quantity of Railway property is being stolen in the various parts of the country;

(b) whether Union Government have taken a decision to set up a panel to deal with the thefts in Railways; and

(c) if so, who will be its members and what will be its functions ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes. There have been cases of thefts of railway property on the Railways.

(b) A proposal to appoint a senior and experienced railway officer to discuss the matter with State Governments and to advise the Government on the steps that should be taken by the State Governments and the Central Government to combat the problem is still under consideration.

(c) Does not arise m view of the reply to part (b).

Views of Soviet Expert on Oil Production in Bombay High

7234. SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Will the Miniser of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet expert during his recent visit was also asked to examine the survey report of the Gujarat coast;

(b) whether efforts of surveying for oil in Gujarat have been stopped; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the same ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Crude bombs found on the Railway line between Thadi and Anakapalle

7235. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA :

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA :

SHRI N. K. SANGHI :

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether twenty two crude bombs in a basket placed on the railway lines were discovered near railway bridge between Thadi and Anakapalle station on the South Central Railway on the 28th March, 1975;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any arrests have also been made in this regard; and

(d) whether any enquiry was also held into the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, twenty eight country made bombs were found near the Up line at Bridge No. 718 in between Thadi and Anakapalle Railway Stations and not 22 crude bombs in a basket.

(b) On 28-3-1975 at about 8.30 hrs. one boy aged 13 years while grazing cattle noticed 28 country made bombs at the site. He picked up one of them and rubbed against the parapet wall of Bridge No. 718. The bomb exploded causing injuries to the boy and producing big noise. Railway Gate man conveyed this information to the Station Master Anakapalle. On receipt of the information from the Station Master, Anakapalle, Local Police S. P. and Collector, Waltair and Naval Armament Depot Experts visited the spot. The police dogs were also summoned to assist the investigation. There was no damage to the Track or to Railway property.

(c) So far no arrest has been made in this connection.

(d) Kasimkota Police have registered the case under section 7 of the Explosives Substances Act and investigations are in progress.

Derailment of Lalgola bound passenger train at Birnagar Station

7236. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether two persons were killed and 15 others injured when a Lalgola bound passenger train went off the rails at Birnagar station on the Ranaghat-Krishnanagar section of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, facts thereof and the causes of the accident; and

(c) the compensation paid to the victims ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) There was a derailment of 365 Up Sealdah-Lalgola passenger train at the Up facing points of Birnagar station on Sealdah-Lalgola section of the Eastern Railway at about 16.28 hours on 26-3-1975. As a result of this accident, one person was killed, and 9 were injured of whom 5 suffered grievous hurt. In addition, 6 persons sustained trivial injuries like petty abrasions and bruises.

According to the provisional finding of the Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, Eastern Circle, Calcutta the derailment was caused by the failure of railway staff.

(c) No compensation has so for been paid to the victims of this accident under Indian Railways Act.

Completion of Barauni Fertilizer Plant

7237. SHRI M. S. PURITY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Barauni Fertilizer Plant in Bihar has almost been completed;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) the broad features regarding the unit to be commissioned with its installation capacity as well as the cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) The Barauni fertilizer project is mechanically complete and testing and precommissioning operations are in progress. During these operations certain defects like leakages were observed in the reformer section. Action has been initiated to rectify the defects by importing, where necessary, the equipments needed. The plant is expected to go into commercial production by the end of 1975.

(c) The project which has an installed capacity for production of 3.30,000 tonnes of urea per annum (equivalent to 1.52,000 tonnes of nitrogen per annum) is estimated to cost about Rs. 69 crores.

Complaints against running of trains without guards and brake-vans

7238. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that trains are being run on many sections without guards and brake-vans;

(b) whether complaints by drivers against this practice which facilitates thefts and pilferage are ignored by the Railway officials; and

(c) whether he proposes to inquire into the responsibility of officials in this matter far thus aiding and abetting thefts of Railway property ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes. Trains are sometimes run without guards and brakevans under special instructions, which is permissible under the extant rules.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Row over Commissioning of Mathura Refinery

7239. SHRI DHAMANKAR :
SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated the 26th March, 1975 under the caption "Row over Mathura Schedule";

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to the various observations made therein; and

(c) action taken to resolve the issue?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) Government have seen the news item in the 'Economic Times' dated the 29th March, 1975.

(b) and (c) Mathura Refinery Project has already been included in the Fifth Plan and funds for the project have also been provided in the Annual Plan for 1975-76. But in view of rapid escalation in the cost of imported crude oil, limited availability of foreign exchange and the difficult resources position, consideration is being given to a rephasing of the project.

Work on the project is in progress.

Construction of over-bridges in Western and Central Railways

7240. SHRI DHAMANKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Thana district certain over-bridges have been sanctioned and some earth work has been undertaken to construct approaches but the construction of the over-bridges has not been started on Dahanu, Palghar, Bassein and Virar on Western Railway and Dombivali (proposed) Shahad, Ambernath, Asangaon, Shahapur, Badlapur on Central Railway;

(b) if so, the reason therefor ?

(c) whether earth-work at Bassein, Palghar, Asangaon has been completed since the last two years but the construction of over-bridges has not been taken in hand; and

(d) what steps have been taken to expedite the construction of the over-bridges ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Road overbridges at Dahanu Road, Palghar are already sanctioned and work on these bridges is in progress.

The road overbridge at Shahad is also sanctioned but actual work could not be started so far. The road overbridge at Bassein Road was also sanctioned earlier, but the scheme had to be revised due to subsequent changes arising out of the proposed Diva-Bassein rail link, as also due to the change in the road alignment.

Proposals for construction of road overbridges at Dombivali and Asangaon have been finalised, but the works are not yet sanctioned.

There are no proposals at present for construction of road overbridges at Virar, Ambernath, Shahapur and Badlapur so far from the State Government/Road Authorities concerned.

(b) The work on the bridge proper at Dahanu Road and Palghar is in progress.

The work on the road overbridge at Shahad could not be commenced due to changes proposed in the location of the bridge due to land acquisition difficulties. The road over-bridges at Dombivali and Asangaon could not be sanctioned due to non-compliance of certain formalities by the State Government/Road Authorities.

The work on Bassein cannot be taken up unless all the formalities are gone through again for sanctioning the revised scheme.

The question of starting work at Virar, Ambernath, Shahapur and Badlapur does not arise as no proposals have been received for these works.

(c) Earth work in respect of road overbridges at Asangaon has been partly completed but the estimate for the bridge proper has not so far been accepted by the State Government. Earth work on road overbridge at Bassein has been completed but the work on bridge portion has not been started due to the reasons given in part (b). Earthwork in approaches of the bridge on Palghar is not yet completed; the probable date of completion, as fixed by State Government Authorities being 30-6-1975. Work on bridge portion at Palghar is also completed except erection of steel girders in the central span and casting of road slabs. The steel girders for central spans have since been received at site.

(d) The position for each work is indicated below :—

Road overbridge at Dombivali :

All formalities in respect of preparation of plans, estimates etc. have been completed and the work will be sanctioned as soon as the Dombivali Municipal Council deposit their share of the cost for the road overbridge with the Railway. In a recent meeting held by Central Railway on 30th March, 1975 the Dombivali Municipal Council have informed that they will be depositing their share of the cost in 3 instalments shortly in the ensuing months and the first instalment of Rs. 25,000 has been received on 9-4-1975. The work will be sanctioned as soon as the balance amount of Rs. 56,000 is deposited.

Road overbridge at Asangaon :

The earthwork in approaches has been partly completed by the road authorities. However, the construction of the bridge proper has not been commenced as the various issues in connection with the sharing of cost were to be resolved with the State Government. In a meeting held on 30-8-1974, the principles for apportionment of cost for the construction of road overbridge at Asangaon were discussed and agreed to. Based on this principle, an estimate for construction of the road overbridge has been sent to the State Government for acceptance in January, 1975. The acceptance to the estimate has not been received from the State Government and the latter have been reminded frequently in the matter.

Road overbridge at Shahad :

The Central Railway has been in touch with the State Government regarding the actual commencement of the work. Recently, in February, 1975, the State Government have advised the Central Railway that the original site for construction of the road overbridge should hold good and have requested the Central Railway to undertake the construction of the bridge accordingly. Arrangements are now being made for invitation of tenders and commencement of the work depending upon the availability of funds in the financial year 1975-76.

Road overbridge at Palghar :

Earthwork in the approaches of the above road overbridge has not yet been completed. The Executive Engineer, Thana (B&C) Division, Thana has fixed the probable date of completion of the work of approaches of the above road overbridge as 30-6-1975 So far as the bridge portion is concerned, all works except erection of the steel girders in the central span of the bridge and casting of road slab thereon have been completed. The steel girders for the central span have been received at site.

Road overbridge at Dahanu Road :

The erathwork in the approaches of the above road overbridge has not yet been completed. The probable date of completion of the work of approaches has been fixed as 13-11-1975 by the Executive Engineer, (B&C), Division, Thana. So far as the bridge portion is concerned, except for the erection of the steel girders in the 2 central spans and casting of road slab thereon, the rest of the work has already been completed. Fabrication of the steel girders for the 2 central spans is nearing completion.

Road overbridge at Bassein Road :

The work can be taken up only after the proposal is included in the Works

Programme, which is subject to availability of funds and also subject to the approval of the State Government to the revised general arrangement drawing, the memo of terms and conditions, being received in time to permit the Railway to include the work in the Works Programme.

Road overbridge at Ambernath, Shahapur and Badlapur :

No proposal have been sponsored by the State Government for construction of road overbridges in lieu of level crossings at Ambernath, Shahapur and Badlapur. However, construction of road overbridges at Badlapur as a deposit work for Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation was sanctioned in 1973 and completed in 1974.

Road overbridge at Virar :

The State Government have not so far approached the Railway Administration for providing a road overbridge at Virar either in replacement of any existing level crossing or in as a deposit work.

Agitation threat by All India Loco Running Association

7241. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the All India Loco Running Association has decided to start agitation demanding implementation of 1973 agreements; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the agreements made and the reasons for not implementing them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir; in a memorandum dated 24-3-75 received from the Association they have hinted at "an unpleasant situation in future" if the issues raised by them are not settled within two months.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House indicating the action taken on various items of the agreement

STATEMENT

Presumably the reference is to the statement made by the former Minister for Railways in Parliament on 13-8-73 containing assurances relating to loco running staff grievances. The statement below indicates the action taken on the various assurances :

(i) Breaks in service arising out of the strike in Aug. '73 were condoned by the Railways and the periods of absence in connection with this agitation were adjusted against leave earned or to be earned.

(ii) (a) Staff arrested in connection the May—August 1973 agitations were released except for those charged with offences involving sabotage, damage to Railway property and violence.

(b) All State Governments were requested to withdraw charge-sheets framed under DIR in connection with offences not involving sabotage, violence or damage to Railway property.

(iii) Proceedings of reversions, suspensions and removals arising out of the May & August '73 strikes were cancelled by end of Nov. '73 and disputed cases were referred to the Sub-committee of the Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee appointed for this purpose.

(iv) Charge-sheets of administrative character connected with the May & August '73 agitations were withdrawn, disputed cases being referred to the Sub-committee of the Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee.

NOTE : In regard to the recommendations of the Sub-committee in respect of the disputed cases under (iii) and (iv) above, the decisions of the Chairman of the Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee in respect of the majority of cases have already been communicated to the Railways.

(v) In regard to the introduction of 10 hours running duty for loco

running staff, it has already been announced in Parliament that this will be carried out in a phased manner and completed by the end of 1976. Staff working passenger carrying trains have already been covered and a beginning has been made in respect of staff working other trains.

(vi) The Loco Running Staff Grievances Committee also examined 3 other staff grievances in accordance with the agreement and two of these namely, (i) 'equal pay for equal work'—an issue raised with reference to the Firemen and Shunters—and (ii) protection of pay of medically incapacitated staff, were finalised in the Loco Running Staff Grievances Sub-committee held on 16/17 Sept. '74. The third issue which relates to 'rationalisation of the basis for the payment of mileage allowance' is still under discussion.

Decline in International Crude Oil Price

7242. SHRI G. Y. KRISHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any decline in the crude oil price in the International market; and

(b) if so, what benefit will accrue to India on this account ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) and (b) The International market prices of crude oil are largely determined by the decisions of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and by the decisions of the individual oil producing countries. At the meeting held in Vienna on 12th December, 1974 the OPEC members decided to revise the prices of crude oil effective from 1st January, 1975 to remain in force till September, 1975. There has been no change in this position so far.

There are, however, various reports indicating a downward trend in particularly spot sales. The position is so fluid that it is difficult to say at this stage as to what would be the likely benefit to us. The position is continuously being watched.

Findings of Survey Report on Construction of Railway Lines formerly served by SS Light Railway

7243. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the main features of the survey report on construction of a new broad gauge line in the area served by the former Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway;

(b) whether the survey report has been examined by Government from all angles and if so, the decision taken thereon and if not, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken;

(c) whether the work on this project is quite slow and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by Government to speed up the work ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) A final location survey is still in progress for the construction of a new D. G. line in the area formerly served by Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway. The report of the survey is likely to the available by 30-6-75.

(c) and (d) The work on the project is progressing satisfactorily within the available resources.

Approval for Construction of Railway Line in Areas served by former SS Light Railway

7244. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when was the final location survey for the construction of a new broad gauge line in the area served by the former Shahdara-Saharanpur light Railway taken up and completed or is proposed to be completed indicating the reasons for delay;

(b) whether a final decision has been taken regarding the alignment to be followed and the towns connected or disconnected and if so, the broad outlines thereof and if not, the main reasons for delay; and

(c) the criteria followed for deciding the new alignment with reasons for connecting any new town not served by former S. S. Light Railway or disconnecting any old station/town served by S. S. light Railway ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The Final Location Survey for the construction of a BG rail link in the area formerly served by Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway was taken up on 28-1-74 and is expected to be completed by 30-6-75. There is no delay in completing the survey.

(b) The final alignment to be adopted will depend upon the findings of the final location survey which is in progress.

(c) The new alignment will generally follow the old alignment of the Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway except at the two ends as the new line is required to be connected with the existing B. G. net work. Minor variations may be made as called for due to engineering, operational or traffic considerations.

Completion of conversion of S.S. Light Railway into Broad Gauge Line

7245. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the scheduled time originally fixed by Government for completing the work of converting the Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway line into a broad gauge line;

(b) the particulars of works that have been completed so far and the amount spent thereon;

(c) the total expenditure on this projects; and

(d) the exact time when this work will be completed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The work of construction of Shahdara-Saharanpur B. G. line is scheduled to be completed by 1-4-79.

(b) The progress of important items of work as on 31-3-75 is as follows :

Formation . . .	33%
Major bridges . .	10%
Minor bridges . .	2%
Overall physical progress.	15%

(c) The anticipated expenditure upto 31-3-75 is Rs. 2.20 crores.

(d) The above target date is likely to be maintained provided adequate funds are made available from year to year.

Recommendations of Hathi Committee Regarding Reduction in Prices of Drugs

7246. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hathi Committee appointed a sub-committee to discuss in detail item No. (vi) of its terms of reference regarding reduction in prices of drugs for the consumers, if so, the membership of the sub-committee;

(b) whether while in all other industries capital employed is considered the base for fixation of prices, it has not been done so here to give advantage to the foreign firms in the field; and

(c) whether Government propose that the principle of 'capital employed' is given due recognition in this industry also in the matter of fixation of price, if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) to (c) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

Enquiry Against Companies indulging in Restrictive Trade Practices

7247. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the firms against whom enquiries for indulging in restrictive trade practices were initiated during the last six months; and

(b) the particulars of the cases in which enquiry has been completed and the action taken against the firms ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA) : (a) In pursuance of Unstarred Question No. 3818 answered in the House on 18-3-75, a detailed statement giving particulars of restrictive trade practice inquiries instituted by the M. R. T. P. Commission during the period 1-1-1974 to 31-12-74 was laid on the Table of the House on 24-3-1975. A further Statement giving similar information in respect of inquiries initiated by the Commission during the period 1-1-1975 to 15-4-1975 is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Particulars of cases in which inquiries have so far been completed and orders passed by the Commission are indicated below :—

S.No.	Name	Date of issue of orders by the Commission
1	2	3
1	Cadbury-Fry India Ltd.	5-9-1972
2	Groz-Beckert Saboo Ltd.	13-2-1974
3	National Tobacco Co. of India Ltd.	4-10-1974
4	American Universal Electric Co. Ltd.	1-11-1974
5	Union Carbide of India Ltd.	27-12-1974
6	Colour Chem Ltd. & others	14-1-1975
7	Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Ltd. Calcutta and 2 others	14-2-1975
8	Modi Yarn Mills Ltd.	18-2-1975
9	Indian Tube Co. and its Distributors, New Delhi	25-2-1975
10	Carona Sahu Ltd.	21-3-1975

Statement

Partilular of restrictive trade practices inquiries instituted by the M.R.T.P. Commission u/s 10 of the M.R.T.P. Act, 1969 during the period 1-1-75 to 15-4-75.

S.No.	Name of the Company	Date of issue of notice by the commission
1	2	3
1	Steelage Industries Ltd.	10-1-1975
2	International Instruments Pvt. Ltd., & four others	30-1-1975
3	Tata Engineering & Locomotive Co. Ltd.	10-2-1975

S.No.	Name of tho Company	Date of issue of notice by the commission
4	Bajaj Electricals Ltd.	10-2-1975
5	Hind Lamps Ltd., & 9 others	22-2-1975
6	Electric Lamps Manufacturers (India) Pvt. Ltd., & 8 others	22-2-1975
7	(i) Motor Industries Co. Ltd., and (ii) Ghaziabad Engineering Co. Pvt. Ltd.	6-3-1975
8	Atul Products Ltd. & 2 others	7-3-1975
9	Calcutta Chemicals Co. Ltd.	7-3-1975
10	*(i) Mysore Kirloskar Ltd., and (ii) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd.	17-3-1975
11	*(i) Mysore Kirloskar Ltd., and (ii) Batliboi & Co. Pvt. Ltd.	17-3-1975
12	*(i) Mysore Kirloskar Ltd., and (ii) Machine Tools India Ltd.	17-3-1975
13	Ex-cell O. India Ltd., and 4 others	10-4-1975
14	(i) Goetze (India) Ltd., and (ii) Escorts Ltd.	14-4-1975

NOTE —(1)* The original application dated 13th September, 1974 of the Registrar of Restrictive Trade Agreements against Mysore Kirloskar Ltd. and three others (*viz.* (i) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (ii) Batliboi & Co. Pvt. Ltd., and (iii) Machine Tools India Ltd.) has been ordered to be split up into three applications by the Commission. The proceedings in the original application dated the 13th September, 1974 have been dropped.

(2) Inquiries in these 14 cases have not yet been completed and are still continuing before the Commission.

Official Pressure on Hathi Committee

7248. SHRI BHALJIBHAI PARMAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hathi Committee was constantly under the pressure of bureaucrats who were out to help the foreign firms;

(b) whether a sub-committee was appointed to discuss point 2 of its Terms of Reference; who were the members and what were the recommendations of the Sub-Committee; and

(c) whether there is a grant difference in the paper prepared by the Sub-Committee after discussions and the final paper; who made the changes and under what authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry was received by the Government on the 6th April, 1975 and the same is receiving its attention.

Fixation of National Priority for Production of Drugs

7249. SHRI D. D. DESAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are in the process of fixing national priority for production from among the life saving drugs; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) and (b) Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in its report "on measures for providing essential drugs and common household remedies to the general public especially in rural areas" have identified 117 drug formulations production of which should be taken up on a mass scale in the country. A copy of the report was laid on the Table of the House on 4th March, 1975 and the report is under consideration of the Government.

Steps are being taken to step up the production of the drugs identified and a statement indicating name of important bulk drugs required for the production of formulation, their demand estimate, units approved for production etc. has already been furnished in reply to Lok Sabha unstarred Question No. 6200 answered on the 15th April 1975.

Furthermore, discussion have been initiated with the Public and Indian sectors to identify their role in the production of essential antibiotics and synthetic drugs (48) in number in the context of the Vth Plan requirements of drugs which is to increase from the present production of about 3300 tonnes to about 10.000 tonnes. Public Sector units propose to increase their production from present level of 1500 tonnes to over 5000 tonnes.

The Indian sector has given a blue print which indicates that 23 units will take up the production of 27 drugs in the near future.

Transfer of I.O. Ws. of Eastern Railway to Parent Railway

7250. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be plased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to transfer all those I.O.Ws. of Eastern Railway (Construction Division) who are from Northern Railway to their parent Divisions; if not, the reasons thereof; and

(b) whether Government are aware that these I.O.Ws. are indulging in corrupt practices and do not want to return to regular lines of Northern Railway?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) There is only one such I.O.W. It is not proposed to transfer him back, as construction work on which he is engaged is continuing and he has not therefore been found surplus.

(b) No authentic report is available that the I.O.W. is indulging in corrupt practices.

O&NGC Expert Teams Visit to Bombay High

7252. SHRI VEKARIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an expert team of Oil and Natural Gas Commission has visited the Bombay High when the oil was found there recently;

(b) whether they have made any estimate as to when the oil will be produced there commercially; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C P. MAJHI) : (a) Some experts of ONGC are working in the Bombay High and some others keep on visiting the area from time to time to supervise the oil exploration work being done there and to obtain first hand information of latest developments.

(b) and (c) While oil has been struck at the Bombay High structure, it is necessary to drill a few more well for making an asssessment of the production potential of the structure. Meanwhile, ONGC is taking action to set up an intermediate stage of production during 1976-77 to produce oil from Bombay High at the rate of about one million tonnes per annum.

गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में उर्वरक संयंत्रों की स्थापना के लिये दिये गये लाइसेंस

7253. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चालू वर्ष के गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में किन उर्वरक संयंत्रों के उत्पादन के लिये आशय-पत्र और लाइसेंस दिये गये हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार उपर्युक्त संयंत्रों द्वारा बनाये जाने वाले उर्वरक का वितरण सरकारी एजेन्सियों द्वारा या सहकारी समितियों द्वारा करायेगी; और

(ग) देश में बहुत अधिक मूल्य पर बिक रहे उर्वरक के सम्बन्ध में सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) नाइट्रोजन युक्त उर्वरकों के निर्माण के लिये बड़े संयंत्र और/अथवा गैर सरकारी क्षेत्र में काम्पलैक्स उर्वरक इस समय कानपुर, कोटा, बड़ौदा, विशाखापट्नम गोआ, इन्दौर, और वाराणसी में चल रहे है। टूटीकोरिन मंगलौर और विजग में (विस्तार) के संयंत्रों द्वारा जिन्हें क्रमश: मैसर्स दक्षिणी पेट्रोरसायन उद्योग निगम लि० मगलौर रसायन तथा उर्वरक लि० और कारोमण्डल उर्वरक, लि० द्वारा कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है 1975-76 के दौरान उत्पादन आरंभ करने की भी सम्भावना है, इसके अलावा, बड़ौदा (जी०एस०एफ०सी०) कोटा (श्री राम उर्वरक) और काकीनादा (नगरजूना उर्वरक) में उर्वरकों के निर्माण के लिये गैर सरकारी क्षेत्र में क्षमता स्थापित करने के लिए आशय-पत्र जारी किये गये है।

(ख) उर्वरकों के विपणन जिसमें सहकारी तथा सांस्थानिक एजेंसियों के जरिये उर्वरकों की बिक्री शामिल है, के लिए एक बहु एजेंसी पर्क अपनाया जाता है।

(ग) मुख्य नाइट्रोजनयुक्त उर्वरक अर्थात यूरिया, कैन तथा अमोनिया सल्फेट जो देश में कुल उर्वरक खपत का लगभग 60 प्रतिशत बनता है, के फुटकर मूल्य आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत सांविधिक रूप में सरकार द्वारा नियंत्रित हैं।

इंदौर उच्च न्यायालय में अनिर्णित पड़े मामले

7254. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** : क्या विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय उच्च न्यायालय, इन्दौर (मध्य प्रदेश) में कितने मामले अनिर्णित पड़े हुये हैं; और

(ख) गत दो वर्षों से वहां पर अनिर्णित मामलों की संख्या कितनी है ?

विधि, न्याय और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री (श्री एच० आर० गोखले) : (क) और (ख) मध्य प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय की इन्दौर बैंच में लम्बित मामलों से संबंधित जानकारी तुरन्त उपलब्ध नहीं है। तथापि, 31 दिसम्बर, 1974 को मध्य प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय में, प्रकीर्ण मामलों को छोड़कर लम्बित मामलों की संख्या निम्नलिखित है :—

(i) लम्बित मामलों की संख्या 27,183

(ii) दो वर्ष से अधिक समय से लम्बित मामलों की संख्या। 11,543

मध्य रेलवे में विस्तार प्रसार संबंधी प्रस्ताव

7255. **श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय** : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आगामी दो वर्षों में मध्य रेलवे के विस्तार कार्यक्रम की मुख्य बातें क्या है; और

(ख) नयी रेलवे लाइनों के निर्माण और वर्तमान लाइनों की विस्तार के बारे में कितने प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) मध्य रेलवे में निम्नलिखित परियोजनाएं निर्माणाधीन है :—

(1) दिवा से बेसिन रोड तक बड़ी लाइन का निर्माण

बेसिन रोड-दिवा बड़ी लाईन (लम्बाई 42 किलो मीटर—लागत 12.75 करोड़ रुपये) का निर्माण हो रहा है। आशा है यह काम 1-4-1977 तक पूरा हो जायेगा।

(2) चनाका से वानी तक बड़ी लाइन का निर्माण

चनाका-वानी बड़ी लाइन (लम्बाई 76 किलो मिटर—लागत 5.3 करोड़ रुपये) का निर्माण हो रहा है। इस काम को 31-12-77 तक पूरा करने का लक्ष्य बनाया गया है।

(3) हिरदागढ़-धमुआ-(लम्बाई 14.3 किलो-मीटर लागत 2.25 करोड़ रुपये)

इस काम का अनुमोदन हो गया है और इसे 1975-76 के बजट में शामिल कर लिया गया है। 1976-77 के प्रस्तावों को अभी अंतिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है।

(ख) लाइनो के निर्माण/विस्तार के लिए निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है :—

(1) आप्टा-दसगाव-108 किलोमिटर सर्वेक्षण पूरा हो गया है, रिपोर्ट पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

(2) दसगांव-मंगलूर 800 किलोमिटर सर्वेक्षण हो रहा है।

(3) रोहा अगरा डंडा 25 किलोमिटर ,,

(4) वर्धा-कटोल 80 किलोमिटर ,,

(5) महोबा-खजूराहो 75 किलोमिटर ,,

मध्य रेलवे में बिजली से प्रकाश की व्यवस्था रहित प्लेटफार्म

7256. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य रेलवे में इस समय कितने प्लेटफार्मों पर बिजली से प्रकाश की व्यवस्था नहीं है; और

(ख) वित्तीय वर्ष 1975-76 में वहां इसकी व्यवस्था करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है की जाएगी और इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की भावी योजना क्या है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) 307 स्टेशनो के प्लेटफार्मों पर बिजली की रोशनी की व्यवस्था नहीं है।

(ख) 1975-76 में 6 स्टेशनों के बिजली-करण का कार्यक्रम बनाया गया है। सरकार की यह नीति है कि जैसे-जैसे स्टेशन के समीप-वर्ती क्षेत्र में समुचित दर और सर्विस कनेक्शन प्रभार पर निम्न वोल्टता वाली बिजली की विश्वस्त सप्लाई उपलब्ध हो तैसे-तैसे धन की उपलब्धता के अनुसार, सभी स्टेशना पर बिजली लगा दी जाय।

Non-Availability of Methyl

7257. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:

SHRI DHAMANKAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Methyl (blood pressure drug) is not available and is being sold in the black market.

(b) whether it is a fact that this drug is imported by only one firm in India; and

(c) if so, the name of the company and the total quantity imported during the last quarter of 1974?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c) M/s. Merck Sharp & Dhome (India) are the largest manufacturers of Aldomet, a formulation based on Methyl Dopa. The import of bulk Methyl Dopa was canalised through the STC from the year 1973-74. M/s. Merck Sharp & Dhome have not accepted Methyl Dopa imported by Government through STC from Hungary, on the ground that they would use only the bulk drug made by their principals in USA. A number of doctors have written about the shortages arising and the importance of ensuring adequate availability of this drug. However, no report about sale of this formulation in the black market has been received by this Ministry. In order to alleviate the shortages of Aldomet Tablets, an essential life saving drug used in the treatment of high blood pressure the Government have agreed for the interim period as a stop gap arrangement to import some quantity of bulk Methyl Dopa through the STC from the principals of Merck Sharp and Dohme in USA at average price comparable to that at which this drug is available from rupee sources. As this is a canalised drug the import will be made by STC only. Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. have been asked to take up similar formulations of Methyl Dopa which would become available by June, 1975. Meetings were held with the representatives of IDPL and the Indian Sector of the Drug Industry so that they take up the formulations of Methyl Dopa quickly.

No imports of Methyl Dopa have been effected by STC during the last quarter of 1974.

Companies prosecuted for violation of the Companies Act

7258. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of companies have been prosecuted for violating the Companies Act with regard to the publication of advertisements for issue of bonus shares, deposits and debentures; and

(b) if so, the names of such companies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of pharmaceuticals by foreign owned drugs companies

7259. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the production of pharmaceuticals both vitamins and antibiotics, by foreign owned drug companies during 1972-73 and 1973-74; and

(b) the production of these pharmaceuticals by the companies owned by American during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) A statement indicating the names of bulk antibiotics and vitamins produced by the foreign companies and their production during the years 1972 and 1973 is attached. M/s. Parke Davis (India) Limited, M/s. Cyanamid (India) Ltd., M/s. Pfizer Ltd. M/s. Abbott Laboratories (India) Private Limited and M/s. Merck Sharp and Dohme of India Ltd. mentioned in the statement referred to above are companies with majority foreign equity held by Americans.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the bulk drug	Name of the firm	Production 1972/1972-73	Production 1973/1973-74
	Antibiotics—			
1	Chloramphenical & its esters	1. Parke Davis (India) Ltd.,	9.70 tonnes	11.79 tonnes
		2. Boehringer Knool Ltd.,	28.66 tonnes	19.58 tonnes
2	Tetracycline Hcl.	1. Cyanamid (India) Ltd. (includes Chlortetracy-cline & Dimethyl-chlorotetracycline).	15-49 tonnes	18.74 tonnes
		2. Pfizer Ltd.	Nil	Nil.
3	Oxytetracycline	1. Pfizer Ltd.	36.59 tonnes	39.72 tonnes
4	Erythromycin base & Esters	1. Abbott Laboratories (India) Pvt. Ltd.	Industrial licence yet to be issued.	
	Vitamins—			
1	Vitamin A	1. Roche Products Ltd.	27.81 MMU	26.79 MMU
		2. Glaxo Laboratories (India) Ltd.	21.72 MMU	26.59 MMU
2	Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin & Hydrocobalamin)	1. Merck Sharp & Dohme of India Ltd.	142.37 Kgs.	123.60 kgs.
3	Vitamin E	1. Roche Products Ltd.	--	5.52 tonnes
		2. E. Mark	..	--
4	Vitamin K	1. Glaxo Laboratories (I) Ltd.	Nil	Nil
5	Vitamin P	1. Ciba Geigy of India Ltd.	Nil	Nil
		2. E. Merk	Nil	Nil

Trains cancelled in Northern Railway during the last one year

7261. SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trains cancelled in the Northern Railway during the last one year; and

(b) the reasons for the cancellation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the period April '74 to March '75, an average of about 62 pairs of passenger trains were cancelled daily on Northern Railway due to Railwaymen strike, shortage of coal and public agitation etc.

Profits of foreign drugs companies and their production

7262. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :
PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) the total profit the country has made through the export of drugs manufactured by the foreign drug companies and the profits the companies themselves have made through their sale in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether some of the foreign owned companies are producing medicines to a capacity which has not been authorised by Government and even in some cases they have been found producing sub-standard medicines; and

(c) if so, the names of such companies who have been detected indulging in such activities during the last three years and the nature of steps taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) No separate details of profits earned by foreign companies on exports and internal sales are available. However, details of total profits earned by foreign companies during the last three years have already been furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4774 answered on the 25th March, 1975.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in cost of construction of Mathura Refinery

7263. SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of construction of the Mathura Refinery has substantially gone up since it was mooted;

(b) whether a proposal is now mooted to phase the construction of the Rehnery and it may not be commissioned during the Fifth Plan period; and

(c) if so, what is the escalation in the cost of construction of the Refinery at present and as it would be by the time it is completed and the justification for its further postponement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI) : (a) to (c) Mathura Refinery Project was approved in August, 1973 at a total cost of Rs. 97 crores with foreign exchange component of Rs. 28 crores for completion by mid-1978. This estimate has increased substantially due to rise in prices of materials etc. The project is now estimated to cost Rs. 149.42 crores with foreign exchange component of Rs. 46.25 crores.

In view of rapid escalation in the cost of imported crude oil, limited availability of foreign exchange and the difficult resources position, the schedule is presently under a review of Government.

पिछले तीन वर्षों में बिना टिकट यात्रा के कारण हानि

7264. **श्री लालजी भाई :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले तीन वर्षों में रेलों में बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले व्यक्तियों के कारण सरकार को प्रतिवर्ष कितनी हानि हुई,

(ख) उक्त अवधि में प्रत्येक वर्ष कहा-कहां तथा कितनी बार विशेष चैकिंग अभियान चलाये गये; और

(ग) जुर्माने से कितनी राशि वसूल की गयी तथा कितने व्यक्तियों को दण्डित किया गया ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री श्री (बूटा सिंह): (क) भारतीय रेलों पर बिना टिकट यात्रा के फलस्वरुप राजस्व-हानि के अनुमान वर्षानुवर्ष नहीं बनाये जाते हैं इसलिए पिछले तीन वर्षों के सम्बन्ध में अलग-अलग आंकडे उपलब्ध नहीं हैं । 1967-68 के दौरान सभी भारतीय रेलों पर नमूने के रुप में की गयी जांच के आधार पर प्रतिवर्ष लगभग 20 से 25 करोड़ रुपये की हानि होने का अनुमान लगाया गया था । 1973-74 में एक दूसरी जांच से पता लगा कि बिना टिकट यात्रा करने की घटनाएं कम हो गयी हैं । लेकिन गाड़ियों के रद्द किये जाने, रेलवे हड़ताल और देश के कुछ भागों में कानून और व्यवस्था की दशा में गडबड़ पैदा हो जाने के कारण इस जांच-कार्य में कुछ गडबड पैदा हो गयी थी । शीघ्र ही एक नया सर्वेक्षण करने का प्रस्ताव है ।

(ख) एक निश्चित कार्यक्रम के आधार पर सभी रेलों में बहुत से खण्डों पर बिना टिकट यात्रा करने के विरुद्ध रेलें व्यापक जांचों की व्यवस्था करती हैं । इसलिए उन स्थानों के नाम बताना मुश्किल है कि पिछले तीन वर्षों में कहां और कितनी बार विशेष जांच संगठित की गयी ।

(ग) वसूल किये गये अदालती जुर्मानों की राशि और कैद किये गये व्यक्तियों की संख्या इस प्रकार है :—

वर्ष	वसूल किये गये अदालती जुर्मानों की राशि	कैद किये गये व्यक्तियों की संख्या
1972-73	21,17,173.63 रुपये	1,40,886
1973-74 . .	13,56,503.57 रुपये	1,32,973
1974-75 . . (फरवरी 75 तक)	12,66,690.82 रुपये	99,189

उदयपुर सिटी स्टेशन पर नया प्लेटफार्म बनाने के लिये सर्वेक्षण

7265. **श्री लालजी भाई :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उदयपुर सिटी स्टेशन पर नया प्लेटफार्म बनाने के लिये कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो यह कार्य कब तक प्रारम्भ हो जायेगा; और

(ग) इस पर अभी तक कार्य प्रारम्भ न हो सकने के मुख्य कारण क्या हैं ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग) विभिन्न प्रस्तावों की अभी जांच की जा रही है । इस सम्बन्ध में अंतिम निर्णय लिये जाने के बाद ही इस काम को रेलों के निर्माण कार्यक्रम में शामिल किया जा सकता है ।

बड़ी सादड़ी और रतलाम के बीच रेलवे लाइन के लिए सर्वेक्षण

7266. **श्री लालजी भाई :** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनके मन्त्रालय के द्वारा बड़ी सादड़ी और रतलाम के बीच रेल लाइन के लिये सर्वेक्षण का कार्य पूरा कर लिया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस पर अभी तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बूटा सिंह) : (क) ऐसा सर्वेक्षण कभी नहीं किया गया क्योंकि ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव ही नहीं था ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Financial grants to educational institutions on north-east frontier railway

7267. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Colleges, Higher Secondary Schools, English High Schools, M. E. Schools and Primary Schools to which financial grants-in-aids was given by North East Frontier Railway;

(b) amount of financial grants or aid given by the North East Frontier Railways to the respective institutions; and

(c) the names of the Colleges and Schools which have applied to North East Frontier Railway for financial grant but have not been given any financial assistance by the North East Frontier Railway and reasons for not granting financial assistance to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b)

Name of the Institute	Amount sanctioned (Rs.)
1. Dimapur Railway H.E. School, Dimapur	7,983
2. Maligaon Girls M.E. School, Maligaon	1,593
3. Govt. aided Assamese H.E. School, Maligaon	7,023
4. Umadevi Mission H.E. School, Katihar	3,744
5. Saktigar Vidyapith H.E. School, Siliguri	2,364
6. Pannalal Surendra Narayan Kanya Vidyapith, Manihari	442.80
7. Tindharia Railway H.E. School, Tindharia	1,825
8. Shyama Bidya Mandir, Alipurdur Jn.	8,931.46
9. Railway Hindi Bidyamandir, Alipurdur Jn.	842.16
10. Sankar Dey Bidyalaya, Maligaon	37.70
11. M.E. Girls High School, Pandu	924
12. Dakhin Lumding Bidyaniketa M.E. School, Lumding	313.47
13. Lokpriya Bardoloi Bidyalaya, Gauhati	688.50
14. Adarsh Shishu Vidyalaya, Pandu	720
15. Ambika Girl Balika Vidyalaya, Maligaon	1,956
16. Kamakhya Vidyalaya, Maligaon	5,930.44
17. Bidyamandir H.E. School, Pandu	3,366
18. M.E. School Primary Section, Pandu	2,328

(c) The following institutions were not sanctioned grant-in-aid by theNorth East Frontier Railway as they do not qualify for it in terms of the extant rules :

1. Tarunram Phukan Hindi H.E. School, Maligaon . . .

2. N.F. Railway J.B. School, Jagiroad.

3. Hijiguri Assamese M.E. School, Hijiguri.

4. Hijiguri H.E. School, Hijiguri.

5. Railway H.E. School, Makun.

6. Railway H.E. School, Barodoloi.

7. M.B. T.H.E. School, Lumding.

8. Nabarun Vidyalaya, Lumding.

9. Maligaon M.E. School, Maligaon.

10. Bengali Primary School, Maligaon.

11. Sri Sri Sankar Vidyalaya, Gauhati.

12. Assam Railway Hindi M.E. School, Gauhati.

13. Adarsha Vidyalaya, Gosala.

14. Gandhi Uchcha Vidyalaya, Katihar.

15. Railway Colony H.E. School, New Jalpaiguri.

16. Gandhi Madhmik Vidyalaya, Katihar.

17. Railway H.E. School, Malda.

18. L. P. School, Maligaon.

19. Adarsha Hindi Vidyalaya, New Gauhati.

20. Adarsha Shishu Vidyalaya, New Gauhati.

21. Bidyalaniketan H.E. School, Lumding.

22. B.L. B.S.D. Bidyamandir H.E. School, Lumding.

23. Netaji Sishu Bidyapith M.E. School, Gauhati.

Employees victimised on charge of Intimidation

7268. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received that under the cover of charge of 'intimidation' many Railway employees are sought to be victimised for their normal trade union activities during the railway strike of May, 1974; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government to their complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) It will be recalled that before and during the illegal strike of May 1974 a large number of staff who would otherwise have come to work were seriously 'Intimidated" or threatened with violence. Combined as these threats were with some incidents of actual violence, such terrorising methods can hardly be condoned. However, in keeping with Government's policy not to punish staff for legitimate trade union activities, about 90% of railway employees who were dismissed/removed or whose services were terminated have been taken back to duty. The process of review on the basis of individual petitions continues.

Proposal to convert Pindara Road Halt into a Station

7269. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pindara Road Halt Station of Faizabad and Varanasi Section of Northern Railway is operating successfully as a halt in spite of different limitations placed by administration i.e. tickets only for distance upto 250 kilometres are issued and no important train stops there.

(b) whether keeping in view the surroundings and important bazars near it, the administration proposes to raise this halt to a full-fledged station; and

(c) whether any survey is proposed to be conducted to ascertain the need for conversion from "halt" to "station"?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Pindara Road halt station between Khalispur and Babatpur stations is working satisfactorily. In addition to two Up and two Dn passenger trains, 49 Up/50 Dn Lucknow-Howrah Express trains also stop at this halt station.

(b) and (c) No. It is found not justified financially.

Construction of acrylonitrile project of Gujarat Petro Chemicals

7270. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether construction work on the Acrylonitrile project one of the seven down stream projects in the Gujarat Petro Chemicals Complex, has begun at Jawahar Nagar near Baroda;

(b) Whether this is the first plant of its kind to be set up in this country;

(c) by when it is expected to be completed and commissioned; and

(d) Whether on reaching production target this will save some foreign exchange?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per present assessment, the project is expected to be mechanically completed by the middle of 1977 and commissioned within 3 months thereafter.

(d) At present no acrylonitrile is being imported. However, to the extent that the acrylonitrile based products will become indigenously available, the production of acrylonitrile at IPCL's plant will result in saving in foreign exchange.

Graduate quota for promotion to clerk grade Rs. 330-560 (RS) in Delhi Division (Northern Railway)

7271. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 10 per cent of the vacancies in the cadre of Clerk grade Rs. 330-560 (RS) are filled up by holding a general selection test.

(b) whether no credit is being given to graduate Clerks working in the grade (Rs. 260-400) (RS) for promotion to next grade (Rs. 330-560) (RS) in Delhi Division;

(c) whether there are any Clerks grade Rs. 260-400 in Delhi Division who are under-matric and expected to be promoted to grade (Rs. 330-560); and

(d) whether there is Graduate quota in other categories too and if so, the reasons for not reserving the graduate

quota for appointment to Clerks grade (Rs. 330-560)?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, no credit is given to graduates for such promotion.

(c) The recruitment quota of 75% for Clerks Grade II is filled by Matriculate. The promotion quota of 25% is filled from class IV staff after a selection. Class IV staff who are non-matriculates are also eligible for this selection. Once they are selected and become Clerks Grade II Rs. 260-400, their further advancement to Grade I Rs. 330-560 is by seniority and no restriction on the basis of educational qualifications is applied at the time of this promotion Hence both Matriculates and non-Matriculates are eligible for promotion subject to a suitability test.

In recruitment of Clerks Grade I there is a quota for graduates in the Accounts Branch In grade Rs 330-560 in other than Accounts Branch, no quota for graduates has been prescribed as such qualifications are not considered necessary for the clerical work which this category undertakes.

Setting up of a caustic soda plant by M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited

7272. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state·

(a) the reasons why M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited has been given a letter of intent for setting up of a caustic soda plant at Haldia, West Bengal;

(b) whether it has been alleged that M/s. Hindustan Lever has been given the letter of intent in contravention of the monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): (a) A letter of intent was given to M/s. Hindustan Lever Ltd. for setting up a caustic soda plant at Haldia, West Bengal in view of the need for establishment of additional capacity for this chemical in the country and the industrial licensing policy permitted issue of letter of intent to the party.

(b) and (c) Another party who has also been issued a letter of intent for the establishment of a caustic soda plant at Haldia made an allegation that the requirement of the M.R.T.P Act, 1969 had not been complied with in regard to the issue of letter of intent to M/s. Hindustan Lever Limited. There is no substance in the allegation as the clearance under Section 21 of of the M.R.T.P. Act was duly given.

Complaints made by the national forum of shareholders Calcutta

7273. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU · Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Forum of Shareholders, 4, Synagogue Street (2nd floor) Calcutta have been making various complaints to the Ministry against some cases of mismanagement and manipulations by certain companies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that till the end of 1974, the forum have submitted complaints against as many as 21 companies;

(c) if so, names of the companies against whom complaints have been made;

(d) the dates and nature of each complaint; and

(e) action taken by his Ministry on each of the complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Alongwith a communication dated the 11th February, 1975 the National Forum of Shareholders have furnished a list giving names of 21 companies in respect of which complaints are stated to have been sent to the Department.

(c) to (e) The list referred to above giving the names of companies and the nature and dates of each complaint and the action taken thereon are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-9494/75]

Products of Gluconate Limited

7274. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the main products of Gluconate Limited, Calcutta;

(b) whether the company has stopped production of life saving drugs;

(c) whether since the stoppage of production in M/s. Gluconate Company Limited, M/s. Boots Company a foreign-controlled drug firm is importing many life saving drugs spending the country's hard earned foreign currency; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The main bulk drug and formulations produced by the company are :—

1. Acriflavine
2. Euflavine
3. Pethidine Hcl
4. Proflavine
5. Pentavalent Antimony
6. Blood Bottles
7. Alkacitron

Alkacitron is stated to account for about 60-70% of the turnover of the company.

The production of various products of the company came to a gradual stop due to financial difficulties arising out of losses incurred by the company and accumulated liabilities arising therefrom.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Proposal to Increase production of Essential Drugs

7276. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase production of some 17 items of essential drugs and streamline its distribution among the weaker sections; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal and what are the other steps Government propose to take to control the price level of these essential items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b) The report of the Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry on measures for providing essential drugs and common household remedies to the general public especially in rural areas was received earlier and a copy of the same was laid on the Table of the House on the

4th March, 1975. The Committee have identified 117 drug formulations productions of which should be taken on a mass scale. Committee also looked into various aspects of the industry and submitted its final report on the 6th April, 1975. Government will take a view on the various aspects in the totality of recommendations of the Committee. Towards this end discussions have been initiated with the Public and Indian Sectors to identify their role in the production of essential antibiotics and synthetic drugs (48 in number) in the context of the 5th Plan requirements of drugs which is to increase from the present production of about 3300 tonnes to about 10000 tonnes. Public Sector units propose to increase their production from the present level of 1500 tonnes to over 5000 tonnes.

The Indian Sector has given a blue print which indicates that 23 units will take up the production of 27 drugs in the near future.

There is a comprehensive Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970 and the prices are statutorily controlled under the said Order. In the meantime meetings have been held with Public Sector, Indian Sector and Indian Medical Association to discuss problems of cheap drugs and reservation of capacity to achieve this.

The Committee on Drugs and Pharmaceutical has examined measures taken so far to reduce the prices of drugs for the consumer and recommended further measures for rationalising the prices of bulk drugs and formulations as per one of its terms of reference. A view on the aspect of pricing will also be taken by the Govt. while taking a decision on the various recommendations of the Committee on D&P.

Renewal of Licence of M/s. A. H. Wheeler

7277. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many book stalls are run by M/s. A. H. Wheeler in different railway stations in the country;

(b) whether their 9 years old licence is due to expire on December 31, 1975;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that the licence has been renewed for a period of another 9 years; and

(d) if so, on what grounds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) 381 stalls at 289 stations.

(b) and (c) Yes.

(d) The contract was renewed for continuance of the service of sales of newspapes, periodicals and books to the travelling public and as their performance was satisfactoy.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4709 DATED 25-3-1975 RE: IMPORT OF GENTAMYCIN SULPHATE BY CERTAIN FOREIGN DRUG FIRMS.

THE MINISTER TO STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): An application of M/s. Euphoric Pharmaceuticals for manufacture of injection of Gentamycin Sulphate, among a number of other items, was rejected on 4-3-1975. This information was inadvertently not included in the particulars of Indian companies given in the Statement enclosed with the reply to parts (b) and (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4709 answered on 25-3-1975. Copy of the revised statement to be substituted for the one enclosed with the original reply is attached.

STATEMENT

Revised Statement to be substituted for Statement referred to in reply to parts (b) & (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4709 for 25-3-1975

S.No.	Name of the Indian firm	Date of application	Reasons for rejection	Import content asked for by these companies	
				Quantity	Value
1	Chemical Industrial & Pharmaceutical Laboratories Ltd.	22-11-73	It is desirable for the manufacturers of bulk drugs to undertake the manufacture of formulations also. Rejected because the manufacture is based on imported raw materials and the bulk drugs are not indigenously available	400 kgs.	Rs. 12 lakhs
2	Themis Chemicals Ltd.	28-5-1973	Dio.	48 kgs.	Rs. 4.32 lakhs
3	Euphoric Pharmaceuticals	10-10-1974	Dioe	2 kgs.	Rs. 1.40 lakhs.

8—4 L.S./S.S./75

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF MADRAS FERTILISERS LTD., FOR 1973-74

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the Madras Fertilisers Limited, Manali, Madras for the year 1973-74.

(2) Annual Report of the Madras Fertilizers Limited, Manali Madras, for the year 1973-74 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9483/75.*]

NOTIFICATION UNDER COMPANIES ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 409 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 1975, declaring M/s. The Kumbakonam Diocesan Catholics Permanent Fund Limited, a company having its registered office in Tamil Nadu, to be a 'Nidhi', under sub-section (3) of section 620A of the Companies Act, 1956. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9484/75.*]

PARAFFIN WAX (SUPPLY, DISTRIBUTION AND PRICE FIXATION) SECOND AMENDMENT ORDER, 1975

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Paraffin Wax (Supply, Distribution and Price Fixation) Second Amendment Order, 1975 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 194 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 1975, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—9485/75.*]

12.02 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED ATTEMPTS OF INTERNATIONAL CARTELS TO SMUGGLE HUGE QUANTITIES OF SYNTHETIC TEXTILES INTO INDIA

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Finance to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon.

> "Reported attempts of international cartels to smuggle huge quantities of synthetic textiles into India and their reported meeting at Bangkok."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, The Government have seen some press reports to the effect that a meeting was held recently in Bangkok by, what the press reports called, a world Cartel of foreign manufacturers of synthetic fabrics, with importers at Dubai and landing Agents in India. According to these press reports plans had been made for smuggling large quantities of synthetic fabrics into India.

The Intelligence reports available to the Government do not confirm these press reports. It may however be mentioned that shift in smugglers' emphasis from gold to watches and synthetic fabrics is not a recent development and has been noticed for the last couple of years.

As a result of the recent anti-smuggling drive, launched by the Govt. including preventive detention of smugglers, foreign exchange racketeers and

their associates, it was reported that there was considerable slump in the smugglers' activities in the areas from which the contraband meant for India usually emanated. It was also reported that this contributed to piling up of stocks of synthetic fabrics and other goods in these areas and several firms there faced serious problems in raising credits from their banks. In the light of recession in the textile industry in the manufacturing countries abroad, this created serious difficulties to both the fabric manufacturers and the smugglers. It is understood that some manufacturers have curtailed their production considerably and there have also been reports of distress sales of the stocks.

The Govt. have been collecting intelligence and keeping a constant vigil on the developments in this regard. As a part of the anti-smuggling drive, they have implemented a scheme of establishing a wireless communication network to provide secret and dependable service to the preventive staff, strengthened the preventive intelligence machinery by augmentation of staff, deployment of shore guards, road checking parties and city preventive parties. The preventive staff have also been supplied with more motor vehicles, arms and ammunition and a fleet of sophisticated speed boats fitted with light machine-guns and modern equipment like electronic night sights and radar for locating suspect crafts.

As stated earlier we do nof have any specific information about any meeting in Bangkok. However, the effective measures we have taken in recent months, including preventive detention have had considerable impact in curbing smuggling. The concern of the interests involved in the racket over the loss of this substantial illicit market is therefore understandable.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Sir, there are two things that I am really sorry about. I am sorry that the Minister of Finance, Mr. Subramaniam, is not here to reply to this Call Attention because he is really the main culprit and the villain of the peace and I do not know why the hon. Minister of State has been made to face this unpleasant task like a sacrificial goat because he bad nothing to do with it. Sir, from the statement that has been made, it is quite clear that the information that the Government is supplying today is the information available with them prior to the Budget. The whole mischief in this international smuggling racket started after the Budget proposals were announced. (*Interruptions*)

Will you stop talking, three of you?

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Are you afraid that your voice will be drowned?

SHRI PILOO MODY: I don't like little insects buzzing in my ears. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my contention that the Budget proposals were not as innocent as they sound.

It is my contention that in spite of the fact that two Ministries of the Government of India, the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and the Ministry of Commerce had advised the Finance Ministry that it would be disastrous, particularly from the point of view of smuggling if the duties on these synthetic filaments and yarn and textured fabrics were to be increased, the Ministry of Finance did not listen to them. As it is, the differential between local prices and the prices abroad was something like 6 to 1 prior to the budget proposals and today this differential has risen to something like 10 to 1.

The most acute significance of this is that the entire small scale industry which deals in the manufacture of these yarns is today sitting unemployed because they cannot afford to buy the local material at the price that it will cost after the excise duties have been levied in the budget. I imagine anywhere from 5 to 6 lakhs of people are today unemployed and the three centres that are most heavily hit are Jullundur and Ludhiana and Bhiwandi in Maharashtra where the main bulk of these small scale looms and machines are

[Shri Piloo Mody]

working, generally in a shop directly behind the residence of the man, some with two looms, some with one loom.

Therefore, I feel that in spite of the two Ministries advising them—and I also know it authentically that intelligence reports supplied to the Ministry had told them that if they increased this duty, it would result in smuggling —the Government has been able to do nothing in the matter.

The Minister says over here in the statement that the shift of emphasis from gold to watches and synthetic fibres is not a recent development. That means the Government is aware that now it is no longer gold that is being smuggled, but it is watches and synthetic fabrics, and yet the Government goes on increasing the duty on synthetic fabrics, almost saying to the smugglers: 'Come, let us have some more smuggling in the matter' So the budget has really enhanced it if the Government believed that that was so.

The Minister says in his statement:

> "In the light of recession in the textile industry in the manufacturing countries abroad, this has created serious difficulties to both the fabric manufacturers and the smugglers".

So did the Finance Ministry oblige the textile industry abroad and did it oblige the smugglers that in spite of the fact that there is a world glut, you increase the duty in India so that smuggling can take place from abroad into India? Was the budget meant to provide relief to these fabric manufacturers abroad and smugglers? I do not understand the logic of their thinking.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): You seem to be speaking on the Finance Bill. This is only about international cartels.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Hold your tongue. Even you will take time to understand certain things.

He talks about any number of preventive measures. These preventive measures cost money. On the one hand, you increase the duties. Then hand, you increase the duties. Then you get Rs. 28 or Rs. 38 crores or tious figure that the Government seems to have arrived at. There are complete charts showing how many additional crores of rupees worth of money the Government intends to make as a result of these duties On the other hand, they spend more money to check smuggling. I do not understand the vicious circle that you are embarking on.

As a result of this, as I have mentioned in the call attention notice, international cartels were meeting saying: 'Ah, here is the great opportunity of our life'. In that connection, I would like to read to you a letter, a copy of which I have received, which is most revealing It is a letter written by a Swiss firm called Textilacentur Edgar Lang in Zurich to a Mr Chaturmal of International Traders (ME) Ltd —that is Middle East Limited—in Dubai. I will read the letter to you to show how they considered the Government, in what contempt they hold your Government.

It says:

> "Dear Chaturmal,
>
> You must by now have heard the outcome of the meeting at Bangkok There is an excellent opportunity to do substantial business because of the very favourable prices agreed upon. I have just now been informed that about 2 m. yards of fabrics in the following Varieties are ready for immediate delivery:
>
> (1) 1 00 m. yds suiting double knit;
>
> (2) 0.54 m. yds jersey crimp fabrics;
>
> (3) 4.50 m. yds. . . ."

I think there is misprint in the letter or something.

"(3) 4.50 m. crimp woven dress material printed.

As soon as you confirm the order and open Letter of Credit under the usual terms of the contract, we shall arrange to load the vessel for immediate despatch.

I am anxious to know the results of the efforts our friends are putting in New Delhi. I believe today is the Budget day there and all of us are anxiously awaiting news, though I heard from Joseph..."

Whoever that is, that is something you have to find out.

"...that we have almost succeeded. Nevertheless it is prudent to wait.

I met MB..."

I do not know who that is.

"...the other day and he has assured me that he will be able to do very successful business this year in view of our friend's excellent organisation in Bombay and the influence he has in Dubai and Beyrouth.

Please send word to Madrasi and Solanki..."

I suppose they must be some officers of your Government enforcement or customs.

"..that their interest are being properly safeguarded.

With regards,

Yours,

....."

I do not know the authenticity of this letter to be quite frank. I have a photostat copy of it and I will hand it over to the Minister or I shall place it on the Table of the House, if you like it. If this letter is an authentic letter, it reveals a great deal. It reveals that the budget proposals were influenced by a bunch of international cartelists interested in increasing duties on items which they could easily smuggle into the country. It means that they have contacts not only in Government but also that they have contacts with our enforcement agency. What is the point of buying ships and hovercraft and motor vehicles and arms and ammunition, fleets of sophisticated speed boats and light machine guns and other equipment like radar and electronic night sighters? What is the use of all this if on the one hand your budgets can be manipulated and if on the other hand your coastline can easily be reached?

You know after all what is caught is only about 5-10 per cent of what is actually smuggled. My information is that in the month of March alone about Rs. 80 crores worth of goods must have slipped into the country. There is a report in the Times of India which says that two Arab vessels were caught with Rs. 30 lakhs worth of goods. One more vessel which was chased was sunk and it is suspected to have had Rs. 10 lakhs worth of goods. There was another item of news in the Economic Times the day before that another Rs. 20 lakhs worths of goods were caught in Bombay. If this represents 5-10 per cent of the goods which are actually smuggled into the country, you can imagine the disastrous effects of this on the economy. You know the loss in foreign exchange that we have to suffer as a result of smuggling and also the loss in import duties and things like that. There is also the erosion of the external value of the rupee that takes place as a result of this. There is the problem of black money which has to be generated to finance this sort of transactions. There is corruption which is pervading up and down and through everything that the Government touches. In view of the serious consequences of all these, I want to know who are the officers responsible for framing the budgetary proposals, particularly in respect of the enhancement of the excise duties on the three items I have mentioned. Unless you can get to the source of it, who is responsible for insisting that this should happen, I do not think we will get to the bottom of this. By all means you can continue with your efforts to catch them. I am sure there

[Shri Piloo Mody]

are any number of honest and efficient officers not only in the Government but also in the enforcement agencies who are anxious to catch them but for the few who stand to benefit by doing this sort of thing, I condemn them. I say this has been done deliberately so that for the ensuing elections, Congress can lay its hands on enormous funds from the smugglers made available and possible as a result of interfering with budgetary proposals

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Can we make a counter-allegation that the entire thing is framed by the synthetic textile lobby?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Quite possible Please ask your Government to investigate that also. Let us not have the investigation stopped at any point. Let us investigate who is benefiting out of it. I want certain assurance or if you want, I shall frame them into questions: Would you please find out who are responsible for framing the budget proposals and whether they were in any way influenced by outside agencies? Would you please find out if this meeting in Bangkok did take place and what they discussed at that meeting? Would you please find out who are the people referred to in this letter and what they were upto and how they came to be associated with this international cartel? If you can find out these things, I will be satisfied for the moment

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: So far as the conclusion drawn by the hon member that the entire budget proposals were made keeping an eye on the fact that it would give some advantage to smugglers by enhancing the duty on synthetic products is concerned, it is totally wrong No individual officer could be held responsible for the budget proposals. The Finance Minister places the proposals before the House and the House considers them.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Is it true or not that two Ministries advised the Finance Minister against these particular excise proposals regarding synthetic products? The Minister is sitting right next to you and you may consult him. Secondly, may I know whether the Government did receive an intelligence report from them not to enhance the duties on these products?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: When the various budget proposals are considered, various ministries are consulted and they give their views. It is not possible for me to indicate which particular ministry gave what sort of information.

If I heard him correctly, the hon. member had come to the conclusion that as a result of the new duties imposed on synthetic products, the ratio of indigenous production to that of imported ones would be 1:10. After getting various types of representations from the industry and other agencies about the effect of these budget proposals, we have made some calculation. The present ratio is 1:3.

After the incidence of the new taxes, it may be of the order of 1.3.5 But the Calling Attention is not to discuss the effect of the excise duty on certain items The hon Member will get an opportunity to discuss that when the Finance Bill is taken up for discussion.

So far as the conference of the textile manufacturers abroad and the Bangkok meeting are concerned, as I have mentioned in the text of my reply we have no information that such a meeting took place I have already admitted in the statement that there is a change in the nature of the smuggled goods from gold to synthetic products and watches In fact, a large quantity of synthetic garments and watches were captured as a result of the seizures.

Regarding the letter which the hon. Member mentioned, this is for the first time I came to know about it. If he passes it on to us, we shall look into it to see whether there is any substance in it.

I do not know whether the hon. Member asked any other specific questions. But I can assure him that the tax proposals are not the outcome of the decisions of any individual officer. Government as a whole take the decision which we place before the House.

श्री हुकुम चन्द कछवाय: (मुरेना) : अध्यक्ष जी, माननीय मंत्री ज. ने जो वक्तव्य सामने रखा है, इसमें इस बात को कहा है कि तस्करी को रोकने के लिये हमने कुछ सुदृढ़ आधुनिक यंत्र, तेज चलने वाली नौकाएं और कुछ जवान तथा कर्मचारी तैनात किये हैं। क्या यह बात सही है कि तेज चलने वाली जो 10 नौकाएं आपने लगाई हैं वह जब से लगाई हैं, तब से ही बेकार पड़ी हैं, उनका कोई उपयोग नही है ? उन्हें कस्टम अधिकारियों ने बेकार कर के छोड़ रखा है उसका कोई उपयोग नहीं किया है ?

आपने जितने साधन बढ़ाये हैं, उनका केवल सदन में उल्लेख जरूर किया है लेकिन यह कार्य में नहीं आ रहे हैं। यह बात बिल्कुल साफ है कि बड़े बड़े कस्टम अधिकारी उन लोगो का साथ दे रहे हैं, मैं इसका उदाहरण दे रहा हूं। कल के नवभारत टाइम्स में है कि जब न्यायालय ने बखिया को छोड़ा है तो कस्टम अधिकारियों और पुलिस के लोगों ने बेहद खुशी मनाई है, काफी शराब पी है, जलसे मनायें हैं तथा मिठाइयां बाटी है। यह बखिया को छोड़ने का परिणाम है। ये लोग आपके कर्मचारी हैं, जिन्हें आप पैसा देते है।

अध्यक्ष जी, सरकार ने बहुत बड़ा अभियान चलाया तस्करों को पकड़ने का। सारे देश में तस्कर पकड़े लेकिन उन पर मुकदमा नहीं चलाया। न्यायालय उन लोगों को छोड़ती जा रही है, उनके खिलाफ सरकार द्वारा कोई कार्य नही हो रहा है क्योंकि सरकार के पास कोई ठोस प्रमाण नहीं है। आप उन पर मुकदमें इसलिये नहीं चलाना चाहते हैं कि शायद जब खुली अदालत में केस चलेगा तो काफी लोगों के नाम वे बतायेंगे कि हमसे किस किस मंत्री ने कितना रुपया लिया। उसी डर के कारण सरकार मुकदमा नहीं चलाना चाहती। क्योंकि चुनाव नजदीक आ रहे है, उससे डरकर आप मुकदमा नहीं चलाना चाहते है। बड़ी मात्रा में उनको छोड़ रहे है क्योंकि उनसे पैसा लेना है। वह दूध दोहने वाली गाय है। आप उनसे ही अधिक पैसा ले सकते है। इसीलिये आप इस बात से डरते है। इतना ही नहीं, इकनामिक टाइम्स में उल्लेख किया गया है कि न्यायालय ने काफी लोग छोड़े है, सरकार के पास कोई ठोस प्रमाण नहीं है और कोई तथ्य नहीं है। इसी कारण से उनको छोड़ा जा रहा है। इसलिये सरकार इसमें मजबूर है।

यह केवल यही की बात नहीं है, जो तस्कर माल बाहर से लेकर आते है, केवल वही बात नहीं है। आज बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में भारत की कलात्मक मूर्तियां विदेशों में लाखों रुपये में बेची जाती है। और ऐसेही एक तस्कर मनी राम गुप्ता, जो दिल्ली दरया गंज में रहते हैं। उनके बारे में चर्चा है कि वह अफसरों को 10 लाख रुपये देकर छूटे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह मोशन क्या है, आप क्या कहते जा रहे हैं ? मनीराम गुप्ता की बात इसमें कहां आती है ?

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : वह तो कबूल किया कि सोना आना बन्द हो गया, लेकिन जो घड़िया वगैरा आती हैं जो लाते और ले जाते हैं, उसे सरकार ने पकड़ा है, लेकिन कई ठोस कार्यवाही नहीं की है। सरकार के कानून में बहुत लचीलापन है, बहुत त्रुटि है। सरकार के पास तथ्य नहीं है। उसका ही मूल कारण है

[श्री हुकुम चन्द कछवाय]

कि आप उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही नही करने जा रहे हैं। न्यायालय ने बहुत बडे मात्रा में उन लोगों को छोड़ा है जो इस प्रकार के काम कर रहे हैं।

मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करे कि जितने वाहन उनको दिये गये है उनका कितना उपयोग हुआ है ? अब तक कितने केस पकड़े गये उनके द्वारा ? आपने जो रडार लगाया है, उसके माध्यम से कितने केस पकडे गये ? बखिया को छोड़ने से जो खुशिया मनाई जा रही है, उसके खिलाफ आप क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रहे है ? इसके अतिरिक्त जो माल बेचते हैं, माल ले जाते हैं, उनके खिलाफ भी क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: The hon Member is not correct in saying that all these speed boats are out of order and that they are not functioning. Up to date we have received 20 speed boats against orders placed with a Norwegian firm Six have not yet been put into Comission. Fourteen were put into commission, and out of these 14, only one has been damaged, and that is not functioning. The rest of the 13 are working If you look at the number of seizures by these boats, you will find that even in the first week of November one speed boat which was put into operation captured goods worth nearly Rs. 75 lakhs Certain other seizures have also been made Therefore, it is not correct to say that the speed boats are not working and that all of them are out of order. In fact, their utility is of a high order But these are sophisticated boats which have been put into operation for the first time Sometimes they develop some snags, but they are taken care of. Neither is there any question of keeping them idle or sabotaging them This type of questions came before the House and the position was clarified.

Regarding the release of Bakhia and other detenus, it is known to the hon. Member and to the House that as a result of the decision of the court, they were released. We have also applied to the High Court for special leave to appeal and it is under consideration.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : आपने उस पर केस चलाया है. कोई तथ्य दिये है क्या? वह बताया जाये।

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: The hon. Member is under the impression that if they had been brought to book with sufficient evidence, if sufficient material were available, there would have been no necessity of putting them behind the bar under preventive detention, and they could have been produced before the courts under the ordinary laws, but preventive detention is an extraordinary measure which is applied to cases where the charges cannot be established or sufficient material is not available, but there is evidence to believe that these people are indulging in all sorts of smuggling activities. That is the very basis of this Act, and then the Act was passed by this hon House, all these points were clarified Still, I have already mentioned that we are looking into the other legal aspects, but it will not be possible for me to indicate what type of action would be taken regarding the persons who have been released by the courts

Regarding the other type of smuggling activity, which the hon Member has mentioned, I have no such information and I cannot provide him with any information like that

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : कस्टम विभा के और पुलिस के कर्मचारियो ने काफी खुशिया मनाई है, क्या इसकी जाच करायेंगे ? यह समाचार-पत्रो में आया है, नवभारत टाइम्स ने दिया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : खुशियां मनाई तो क्या हुआ, हरेक ने मनाई। आपको क्य पता कैसे खुशी मनाई जाती है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : यह अखबारों में आया है । क्या आप सहमत हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हां, मैं खुश हूं ।

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Unfortunately, the Swatantra Party and the Jan Sangh are still supporting businessmen, traders and also smugglers. Their speeches reveal the same thing now. They are trying to hide it, but it has come out of their mouth that they are the favour of these smugglers. The Swatantra Party has always been against levying heavy tax on anybody, and without levying tax on anybody the Swatantra Party wants that all amenities should be provided to everybody in this country.

That is their policy. They want to put the Government in trouble by talking all these things. They talk against the levy of taxes because they want to get some money for the elections in Gujarat That is their motive behind this Call Attention.

Now, I congratulate the Government and also the officers and the staff of the Finance Department for doing good work to stop smuggling in this country They have almost stopped smuggling on the western coast. These smugglers have now gone to Bangkok and from there they want to renew their activities To that extent, I am sure, the hon. Minister will take steps to stop that.

The hon. Member, Shri Piloo Mody, tried to condemn the officers in the Finance Department Several officers have already lost their lives under mysterious circumstances. I want that the Government should give sufficient protection to the officers who are conducting anti-smuggling operations.

It is estimated that thousands of crores of rupees worth of synthetic fabrics are lying in Dubai. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to from which countries all this stock has come, whether the Government has protested to the Governments of the countries from where the smugglers are trying to smuggle the goods into our country and whether they are friendly countries or otherwise. I also want to know how the cost of smuggled goods is being paid, whether in our own currency or in foreign exchange or in kind, in the form of silver or gold or rice. I want to know all these details.

Further, I want to know the action the Government is taking against these smugglers. I think, in some countries, these smugglers are being shot at sight, in Iran and other places. I want to know whether similar action is being contemplated by the Government so that the smuggling is stopped completely.

The smugglers are now being released by various High Courts. I want to know whether a foolproof law will be made so that smugglers are not released and they remain inside the jails till all the chains of smuggling operations are broken.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: So far as the countries from where the smuggled goods are coming, they are mainly from Hong Kong, Dubai and some other places So far as the local Governments are concerned, we always receive the cooperation and assistance from them whenever we seek their cooperation and assistance We also exchange information. We get information from them and we also provide information to them. Therefore, there is no lack of assistance and cooperation between the Governments of various countries, particularly these areas from where the smuggled goods are coming to India.

Regarding the legal position, the hon. Member is aware that in the present case, the courts dwelt on the facts of the case, not on the merits of the law It will take some time for us to consider in detail and find out the implications of the judgment After doing that, if certain changes in the legal system are considered necessary, we shall certainly look into that. Regarding the comprehensive legislation, we have already mentioned

[Shri Pranab Kumar Mukherjee]

on the floor of the House that a Committee has been set up to look into various aspects, particularly the legal implications As soon as we get the report, we will arrive at a decision and, naturally, if the Government decides to have a legislation, the Government will come before the House

SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY In which currency is the cost of smuggled goods being paid?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE That is obvious, it is in foreign exchange

श्री मधु लिमये (बाका) अध्यक्ष महदोय, श्री पीलू मोदी ने जो पत्र सदन के सामने रखा है उस मे पाच नाम लिए गए है। एक नाम लिया गया है मद्रासी का, एक है एम० बी०, एक है सोलकी और एक है जोजफ तो मुझे भी यह शक हुआ कि कही यह जाली पत्र तो नही है। इसलिए मैं ने पता लगाने की कोशिश की ये लोग कौन है? तो एम० बी० और मद्रासी का तो पता नही चला लेकिन सोलकी और जोजफ के बारे मे यह पता चला कि ये बम्बई के तस्करो के सर्किल मे ख्याति-प्राप्त लोग है। ये कोई फर्जी व्यक्ति नही है। ये बम्बई इलाके के बडे स्मगलर है और इन का रिश्ता उन के तमाम स्मगलरो के साथ है किन को आप ने बन्द कर के रखा था जिसे सुकर नारायण बाखिया, मस्तान युसुफ, और नयनमल पूजाजी शाह।

सब से पहले बाखिया के केस मे दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट ने जो निर्णय दिया है उस की ओर मैं मत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हू इस मे जस्टिस प्रकाश नारायण कहते ह, यह हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स की रिपोर्ट है

> "Mr Justice Prakash Narayan who delivered the judgment in Bakhia's case observed that the allegations in one of the grounds appeared to be concocted and placed before the detaining authority as a padding up of the grounds on which the detenu could be detained It was, therefore, held that, even if one of the grounds of reasons which led to the subjective satisfaction of the detaining authority was non-existent or misconceived or irrelevant, the order of detention would be invalid"

यह सोचने लायक बात है। मेरा इस सरकार के ऊपर और इन के अफसरो के ऊपर यह आरोप है कि डिटेशन के केस के बारे मे सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्णयो से आप अवगत थे कि अगर आप सात ग्राउण्ड देते है, उन मे दो भी गलत या बोगस साबित होते है तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट यह निर्णय देता है कि हम नही कह सकते कि किस ग्राउण्ड को लेकर सबजेक्टिव सेटिस्फैक्शन हुआ। तो मेरा यह आरोप है कि शुरू से जब सितम्बर मे आप ने स्मगलरो को गिरफ्तार करने का नाटक या नौटकी चलाई तो आप के अफसरो ने जानबूझ कर हरएक केस मे ऐसे वेग या बोगस या फर्जी ग्राउन्ड देने का सिलसिला चलाया क्यो कि वे जानते थे कि कानून के अदर इस तरह के फर्जी और बोगस ग्राउन्ड दिए जाएगे, नान-एग्जिस्टेंट ग्राऊन्ड दिए जाएगे तो अदालत के सामने कोई रास्ता नही रहेगा सिवाय इस के कि इन को छोड दे। आप हमेशा अदालत बनाम सरकार का झगडा पैदा कर के जनता को गुमराह करते है। आप का जो आर्डिनेस था या आप ने फारेन एक्सचेज के बारे मे जो कानून बनाया इन कानूनो को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने या हाई कोर्ट ने अवैध घोषित नही किया। तो कोई नही कह सकता है कि पार्लियामेंट और जूडिशियरी का इस मे कोई सवाल आता है क्यों कि पार्लियामेंट के द्वारा जो कानून बनाए गए, अधिनियम बनाए गए, उनकी वेलिडिटी को हाई कोर्ट ने स्वीकार किया है। तो गलती कहा पर है? गलती एग्जीक्यूटिव की है,

कार्यपालिका की है । आप ठीक तरह जो सबूत है उस को इकट्ठा क्यों नहीं करते और जो नोटिस दिया जाता है या ग्राउण्ड दिया जाता है उस में आप जानबूझकर हेरफेर करते हैं जिस के फलस्वरूप ये लोग छोड़े जा रहे हैं ? इस का आप के पास क्या जवाब है ? क्यों कि अदालत ने कहा है कि एक ग्राउन्ड नान-एग्जिस्टेंट था और दूसरा कानकाक्टेड था । तो पहले इन अफसरों की जांच होनी चाहिए जिन्होंने यह नोटिस फ्रेम किया है । पहले इन को सस्पेंड करने के बाद ही और कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए ... (**व्यवधान**)

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इतनी जल्दी आप घंटी बजाएंगे तो नही हो सकेगा । मैं तो पहले मुद्दे पर था । बीच में तीन लोग बोले नहीं, पीलू मोदी ने भी दस के बजाय पाच मिनट ही लिया है । तो वह समय आप मुझे दें ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप ने खुद ही फैसला किया है । अब आप पाच मिनट मे खत्म करे ।

श्री मधु लिमये : अब यह जो कर बढ़ाए गए जिस के चलते इस पत्र मे कहा गया है कि हम लोगो को एक बढ़िया मौका मिला है इस कपड़े को स्मगल करने का इस के बारे मे मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जो तस्करों के द्वारा माल ले जाया जाता है और उस के लिए जो मार्केट यहां पर मिल रहा है उस के मैं दो कारण मानता हूं ।

एक तो हमारे लोगों के दिमाग पर यह असर है कि जो विदेशी चीज होती है वह अच्छी होती है, जो स्वदेशी की भावना है, वह हमारे लोगों के अन्दर नहीं है । दूसरा कारण—आर्थिक कारण है । जब तक आप की आर्थिक नीतियां, कर सम्बन्धी नीतियां ऐसी रहेंगी कि विदेशों में जो कपड़ा पैदा होता है—वह सस्ता पड़ेगा—मान लीजिए इटली या जापान से जो कपड़ा आता है, वहां भारत के मुकाबले में वेजेज बहुत ज्यादा हैं, हमारे यहां मजदूरी बहुत कम है, फिर भी उन का कपड़ा सस्ता आता है और आप का कपड़ा जहां मजदूरी कम है, महंगा पड़ता है—तो जाहिर बात है कि स्मगलिंग होगा । इस का कारण क्या है ? कारण यह है कि आप पांच स्टेजेज पर ड्यूटी वसूल करते हैं—सब से पहले जो रा-मटेरियल है—डी०एम० टी० कप्टोलैक्टम—उस पर ड्यूटी लगाते हैं, उस के बाद फायबर पर लगाते हैं, फिर धागे पर ड्यूटी लगाते हैं, उस के बाद क्रिम्पिंग टेक्सचराइज्ड प्रोसेस पर ड्यूटी लगाते हैं । उस के बाद कपड़े पर, फैब्रिक्स पर ड्यूटी लगाते हैं । नतीजा यह होता है कि जिस कपड़े का एक्स-मिल दाम ड्यूटी लेकर मान लिजिये 110 रुपया हो जाता है, वही कपड़ा जब विदेशों से दुबाई हो कर आता है तो उस का दाम 22 रुपया होता है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिन तीन कपड़ों की चर्चा यहां पर की गई है—उस में एक तो इन्होंने कहा है —निटेड-फैब्रिक्स, दूसरे ड्रेस मैटीरियल वगैरह—मैं इन के नमूने दिखाता हूं—यह स्वदेशी कपड़ा है और आप देखिये कितना बढ़िया है, विदेशी के मुकाबले क्वालिटी में कोई फर्क नहीं है—ऐसी स्थिति में क्या वजह है कि हिन्दुस्तान में विदेशी कपड़े के लिये माग ज्यादा है । हमारे छोटे-छोटे लोग जिस कपड़े को बना रहे हैं, वे आज विदेशों के मुकाबले टिक नही पा रहे हैं । इस का कारण यह है कि जो नई कर योजना इन लोगों ने इस बजट में बनाई है वही इस के लिये जिम्मेदार है । इस में दो रायें नहीं हो सकती हैं, यह कामनसैन्स की बात है, जब स्वदेशी कपड़े,

(श्री मधु लिमये)

का दाम ऊंचा उठ जायगा, आप की करनीति से 25-30 रुपया मीटर बढनेवाला है, जब विदेशी कपडे और स्वदेशी कपडे मे इतना अन्तर पड जायगा तो जाहिर बात है कि ये स्मगलर्स जोखिम उठाने के लिये तैयार हो जायेंगे, बावजूद इस के कि आप उन को जितना चाहे पकडने की कोशिश कीजिये ।

यह पकडने की कोशिश क्या है---उस को भी सुन लीजिये । पश्चिमी बंगाल मे एक अखबार मे यह कहा गया है---

> "The Union Government is said to have instructed the State Governments to take legal action against absconding smugglers West Bengal accounts for 62 of them About 80 smugglers are now under detention"

आप कह रहे है कि हम बडा काम कर रहे है--- क्या कर रहे है---82 गिरफ्तार किये गये है और 62 एब्सकाण्ड कर गये है । यह आप की कार्यक्षमता, एफिमियेन्सीज का नमूना है ।

दूसरी बात---जैसा मन्नान ने इलस्ट्रेटेड वीकली मे कहा था---10-15 साल से इतना बडा धन्धा क्या सरकार की मदद के बिना हम लोग खडा कर सकते थे ? आपके सरकारी अधिकारी और बडे बडे लोग इन से मिले हुए थे । आप ने स्वय अखबारो के द्वारा प्रसारित किया है कि 300 कर्मचारियों और अफसरों का ट्रान्सफर करवाया है, 68 लोगों को आपने रिटायर करवाया है या करवाने जा रहे है, 37 लोगों के खिलाफ आप अनुशासन का कार्यवाही कर रहे है । ये समाचार अखबारो को आप ने ही दिया है, लेकिन जब पकडे जाते है तो कहते है कि हमे जानकारी नही है । इस लिये, अध्यक्ष महोदय, सरकार इन आंकडो के बारे मे मे स्पष्टीकरण दे कि इन मे तथ्य कितना है और इस काम मे जो ढिलाई हो रही है उस के बारे में में सरकार क्या करने जा रही है ?

अभी श्री रामगोपाल रेड्डी ने कहा कि पीलू मोदी इस लिये ऐसा कह रहे है कि उन को चुनाव के लिये पैसा मिलेगा । मुझे आपत्ति नही है – अगर पीलू को मिल जाय, लेकिन मुझ भी जरूर उस मे से हिस्सा दे दे । लेकिन मै यहा निवेदन करना चाहता हू कि ड्यूटीज को कम करने की मांग उन के ही दल के नेता---श्री रजनी पटेल ने भी की है, जो बडी तेजी से श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र की जगह ले रहे है । उन्होने भी ड्यूटीज के खिलाफ बयान दिया है कि ड्यूटीज घटाई जाये । पीलू मोदी के एक दोस्त है--- उनका कहना है ....

SHRI S R DAMANI (Sholapur) I want one clarification, Sir He said that the excise duty is more and therefore smuggling is encouraged Now he is saying that some Members are influencing the Government to reduce the excise duty Now, what actually does he want, I want to know

श्री मधु लिमये : मै निवेदन कर रहा था कि श्री रामगोपाल रेड्डी ने यह आरोप लगाया कि ऐसा इस लिये कहा जा रहा है कि ये इन लोगो से मिले हुए है । मै यह कहने के लिये तैयार हू---कि स्मगलर्स से मिलने की बजाय, अगर छोटे उद्योगवालो से मिलने की बात आयेगी तो हम स्वदेशी लोगों मे मिलना पसन्द करेंगे, इन स्मगलर्स या विदेशी लोगो से मिलना पसन्द नही करेंगे। मै चाहता हू कि स्वदेशी उद्योग हमारे देश मे पनपे । स्मगलर्स और विदेशियों के द्वारा जो आक्रमण स्मगलिंग के द्वारा हमारे देश के अन्दर हो रहा है, उस को रोका जाना चाहिये । जो विदेशी लोग हमारे देश मे घुसे हुए है, मै उन के आक्रमण के खिलाफ हू । इस लिये मै मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हू--

1 ड्यूटी के बारे से खुद सुब्रह्मण्यम् साहब ने कहा है कि पुनर्विचार कर रहे है । यह पुनर्विचार कब खत्म होगा और अपने सुझाव लेकर वे कब हमारे सामने आयेंगे?

2 इन सरकारी अफसरों के खिलाफ़ क्या क्या कार्यवाही की गई हैं, उस को तफसील सदन को दें ?

3 क्या यह सही है कि पश्चिमी बंगाल में 62 एब्सकाण्डर्स हैं, जिन को अभी तक नहीं पकड़ा गया है ? क्या दूसरे राज्यों में भी यही स्थिति है ?

4 जानबूझ कर जो ग्राउण्डस डिटेन्शन में गलत दिये गये हैं—क्या उन मामलों में भी कोई जांच की जायेगी और जो दोषी आफिसर्ज हैं उनको जांच कराने से पहले सस्पेण्ड किया जायगा ?

मैं इन सब प्रश्नों के उत्तर चाहता हूं।

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: Regarding official collusion for giving grounds deliberately so that they can get rid of the trouble from the courts, this is not correct.

When such people were under detention, some of them have applied to various other courts.

On the detention grounds, the Delhi High Court has taken a view, while some other view was taken by another High Court in another case. The Judiciary themselves, in their wisdom, have to decide whether they are justified or not. And, we have applied for special leave to appeal in the High Court, in order to find out whether this is justified or not. Till a decision is arrived at in this regard, it is not possible for me to say whether this is justified or not justified. Because, there is one case on which two judgments differ. Two high courts are giving two contradictory judgments. It is impossible for me to judge whether these grounds are justified or not.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur): What about the non-existing grounds? That is what they say.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: These are existing grounds. This was challenged in another court; on these grounds, they found that these grounds were justified. These are existing grounds.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: The release was on no other grounds, but non-existing grounds. That is why I want to know on this.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: Sometimes they are taking a view that on non-existing grounds this is for the court to judge. In one case the grounds were identical grounds. Two high courts are taking two different views. Therefore, it is for the Supreme Court to decide.

श्री मधु लिमये: आप कहते हैं कि बखिया के केस के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता हूं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि बखिया के केस के बारे में क्या आप जांच कराने के लिये तैयार हैं—नान-एक्जिस्टेन्ट और कनकाकटेड ग्राउण्डस क्यों दिये गये ? क्या ये लोग बखिया से मिले हुए थे ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I can go into this after getting the final judgment of the Supreme Court. Before that it is not possible. As I said, we are appealing against the findings of the Delhi High Court.

Let the highest court of the land pronounce its judgment. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt him. Let him finish.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: It is for the court to decide.

MR. SPEAKER: You people are introducing many other things.

श्री मधु लिमये: अध्यक्ष महोदय, जूनियर मिनिस्टर को इस तरह बलि का बकरा बनाया जाता है। आप को ओबजरवेशन करना चाहिये इस पर क्यों कि यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मामला है। माननीय सुब्रह्मण्यम को यह आना चाहिये था। वह कौन सा ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण काम कर रहे हैं जो यहां नहीं आये ?

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: The hon. Member is aware that Shri Subramaniam is not here. He has gone abroad. Regarding the question of West Bengal, he is perhaps not correct in saying that only 82 people have been arrested in West Bengal. Uptodate, 886. . . (*Interruptions*)

श्री मधु लिमये : मैं वेस्ट बंगाल की बात कह रहा था। मैं ने यह कहा था कि पश्चिम बंगाल में 82 स्मगलर्स पकडे गये है, और 68 ऐबसकौन्ड कर रहे है। क्या यह बात सही है? 82 smugglers have been arrested and 68 are absconding.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: That is correct.

श्री मधु लिमये : इनको ऐफीशियंसी देख लीजिये, अध्यक्ष महोदय, 68 ऐब्सकान्ड कर रहे हैं स्मगलर्स।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप उनको बोलने दीजिये।

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : It is not correct to say that 82 people have been arrested.

Regarding West Bengal also, we have already taken steps by taking up the matter with the State Administration and we tried to find out whether these people could be arrested. As regards the effect of excise duty, I have already replied in reply to a question of Shri Piloo Mody that this is not the occasion to discuss what would be the effect of the excise duty. It has already been mentioned that it is the usual practice of the Ministry of Finance if they give some concessions it is done when the Finance Bill is being discussed on the floor of the House, this matter can be discussed. It is not possible for me to indicate just at the moment.

The last point which the hon. Member raised is about what Shri Rajni Patel said. There is nothing wrong in that. Various people have expressed their opinion. And Shri Rajni Patel has expressed his own opinion. Whether the Government is acting as per the advice of Shri Patel or not, it is for the hon. Member to draw his own conclusion when the Finance Bill comes up.

12.53 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHTH REPORT

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : I beg to present the Hundred and Forty-eighth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on paragraphs relating to Financial Results and Earnings of the Railways included in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1972-73, Union Government (Railways).

12.54 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

ELEVENTH REPORT

SHRI B. K. DAS CHOWDHURY (Cooch-Behar): I beg to present the Eleventh Report of the Committee on Government Assurances.

12.55 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MEMBER RE. INFORMATION GIVEN BY DEFENCE MINISTER ON 20-2-1975 IN HIS REPLY TO USQ NO. 422 REGARDING DETENTION OF MAJOR RAMESH CHANDER DHAWAN AND MINISTER'S STATEMENT CORRECTING THE REPLY

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am narrating here below how the Defence Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh has given a wrong reply which was misleading to the House.

In reply to my unstarred question No. 422 dt. 20-2-1975 Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Defence stated :

'Question : (c) Whether it is a fact that Major Dhavan made a statutory complaint to the Central Government levelling certain allegations of corruption, misuse and misappropriation of military stores against some of his superiors ;

Reply : Yes, Sir.

The statutory and other complaints contained allegations against four of his superior officers.'

This information is totally wrong and baseless and was made to undermine the whole thing. In actual fact this statutory and other complaints contained allegations against 12 of his superior officers and not 4 as stated by the minister. They are as follows :

(i) Lt. Col. I. N. Suri (then Major) of 3 Assault Field Co.

(ii) Col. Somana of 471 Engineer Brigade.

(iii) Lt. Col. Swami of 465 Army Troop Engineers.

(iv) Lt. Col. Inder Jagmohan, a A.Q.M.G. of HQ 17, Mountain division.

(v) Lt. Col. Kapur of 269, Army Engineering Regiment.

(vi) Lt. Col. Ajit Prasad of 235 Army Engineering Regiment.

(vii) Lt. Col. V. Ganesh.

(viii) Lt. Col. Ran Gar.

(ix) Gen. Nagra.

(x) Lt. Col. B. Arora.

(xi) Brig. A. L. Kochar, Chief Engineer, XXXIII Corps.

(xii) Lt. Gen. B. N. Das.

From the above factual and correct information you will see that the reply given to the question before this august House was totally wrong and misleading

Sir, the hon. Minister has chosen to mislead the House in order to shield these corrupt officials.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : I have carefully gone through the reply given on 20th February 1975 to Unstarred Question No. 422 tabled in Lok Sabha by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu with reference to the available records in the Army Headquarters and Ministry of Defence. While Part (c) of the Question asked whether it was a fact that Major Dhawan had made a statutory complaint to the Central Government levelling certain allegations of corruption, misuse and misappropriation of military stores against some of his superiors, the reply given covered not only the statoury complaint referred to in the Question, but also other complaints which were not referred to in the Question. I now find that in framing the reply, the concerned officer picked out the names of officers superior to Major Dhawan not from the statutory and other complaints submitted by Major Dhawan but from the proceedings of two Courts of Inquiry which were ordered on the basis of one of the non-statutory complaints as the statutory and other complaints were not readily available to the dealing officer. This mistake was also not detected by the officers who checked the reply before it was finalised. The concerned officers in the Army Headquarters and Ministry of Defence have expressed their deep regret for this mistake. I would like to add my own regret for the erroneous information given to the House.

I think that the reply to Part (c) of the Question should have confined itself to the statutory complaint made by Major Dhawan which was already dealt with by the Ministry. This statutory complaint dated 16-4-73 was for granting redress of grievances in restoring his seniority and grant of promotion which allegedly was not given because of adverse remarks made during 1962-69 in his Annual Confidential Reports by his seniors due to alleged prejudice for his having complained against them. This statutory complaint had already been rejected by Government in April 1974 and the officer informed. This complaint contained allegations against six of his superiors. The allegations related to periods from 1960 to 1970. An attempt was made to find out from the available records whether the allegations were enquired into at the relevant time and, if so, what action was taken. It is found that in one case in 1970, the officer was awarded the punishment of 'severe displeasure'. In respect of two cases relating to 1968 and 1969, Regimental funds which were kept in unauthorised private account were got reimbursed and credited to the correct Regimental account. One case relating to 1963 was investigated and finally dropped. In two cases relating to 1960

[Shri Swaran Singh]

and 1965 there are no records to show whether any action was taken.

In view of the foregoing, reply to Parts (c) and (e) of the Unstarred Question No. 422 has been revised as per statement which is now being laid on the Table of the House.

It is seen that Major Dhawan has made more than one statutory complaint and several non-statutory complaints. It is not clear to which statutory and non-statutory complaints the Hon'ble Member is referring in the notice of privilege and in his statement. I am not attempting any reconciliation with the names mentioned by the Hon'ble M.P. in his statement which he has made today with the number of 'six' superiors mentioned by me, as I am confining myself to the statutory complaint of 16-4-73 submitted by the Major and as any such reconciliation and discussion would lead to disclosure of names and controversy which is not in the public interest. However I shall try to find out the complete details of the cases pertaining to the 12 officers whose names have been mentioned by the Hon'ble Member and I shall communicate the information to him in due course.

I may be permitted to add that Government have no intention to shield any wrongdoer. All specific allegations brought to the notice of authorities are always enquired into and appropriate action taken depending upon the merits of each case.

[Statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 22-4-1975 correcting the reply given to parts (c) and (e) of Unstarred Question No 422, answered on 20-2-1975.]

In part (c) of Unstarred Question No. 422 put down for answer in the Lok Sabha on 20-2-1975, it was asked whether it was a fact that Major Dhawan made a statutory complaint to the Central Government levelling certain allegations of corruption and misuse and misappropriation of military stores against some of his superiors.

The answer given to the aforesaid part of the Question was as follows :—

"(c) Yes, Sir. The statutory and other complaints contained allegations against four of his superior officers."

In part (e) of the aforesaid Unstarred Question it was asked as to what was "the nature of these charges and the action taken on the same?"

The answer given to the aforesaid part of the Question was as follows :—

"(e) (i) The nature of charges was diversion and misuse of funds allotted for execution of operational tasks and purchase of stores at exhorbitant rates.

(ii) The matter was investigated and the officers dealt with disciplinarily Of the four officers involved—

(A) One was awarded 'severe displeasure' of the Chief of the Army Staff ;

(B) Another was tried by a GCM and acquitted ; and

(C) The remaining two were also tried by GCM Of these, one was sentenced to dismissal and the other to cashiering and six months RI. However the sentences in both these cases are still to be confirmed by the competent authority."

On further investigation it has been found that answers to parts (c) and (e) of the Question were erroneous. The error is regretted The answer should have confined itself to the statutory complaint referred to in the Question.

The correct position is as follows :—

"(c) Yes, Sir. The statutory complaint dated 16-4-1973 contained allegations against 6 officers superior to him."

"(e) (i) The charges related to misappropriation of Government stores, misuse of Government stores and funds, unauthorised service from MES, misuse of Government machinery and Regimental funds not having been placed in auditable account books,

(ii) From the records it is seen that one case relating to 1970 was investigated and the officer was awarded "severe displeasure". In respect of two cases relating to 1968 and 1969, Regimental funds which were kept in unauthorised private account were got reimbursed and credited to the correct Regimental account. One case relating to 1963 was investigated and finally dropped. In two cases relating to 1960 and 1965, there are no records to show whether any action was taken".

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: Sir, I would like to add with your permission . . . (*Interruptions*)

13 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me listen to him This is very bad I am not allowing you

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: I would like to add only one word that I know and all of us know that if he talks of the statutory complaint by an officer, who is under cloud, he will have a copy of that, that statutory complaint. There was no point in suppressing because that is more or less a public document at any rate available with the petitioner But, I have explained the unfortunate circumstances by virtue of which this mistake has crept in. I would also like to add that if you talk of the complaints, statutory and non-statutory, the number is not even twelve, but, even more I cannot complain that Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu is trying to suppress any information.

13.02 hrs.

CIGARETTES (REGULATION OF PRODUCTION, SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION) BILL*

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNNG (DR. KARAN SINGH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain restrictions in relation to trade and commerce in, and producing, supply and distribution of, cigarettes and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for certain restrictions in relation to trade and commerce in, and production, supply and distribution of, cigarettes and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

Dr. KARAN SINGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

13.03 hrs.

RE. PROCEDURE ABOUT PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY MEMBERS

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai). Sir, with your permission, I rise on a point of order under Rule 377(1) for the intrepretation and enforcement of Rule 357 and the related Direction 115C. Sir, the other day, that is on 21-4-75, Shri Morarji Desai, an hon. Member of this House made a personal explanation. A copy of the statement has to be submitted in writing by the Member concerned to the Speaker in advance according to Direction 115C. But, four copies of the statement were demanded by the Lok Sabha Secretariat and supplied accordingly Soon after the supply of the statement to the Lok Sabha Secretariat, I learnt that a copy of it was supplied to the Government or the Prime Minister. This, I submit, constituted a breach of Rule 357 and the related Direction 115C Rule 357 and Direction 115C do not posit that an advance copy of the statement would be made available to the Member whose remarks had warranted the personal explanation. The Rule and the Direction are unambiguously clear that an advance copy of the explanation has to be made available to the Speaker. The fact that in this particular case, the Member whose remarks had caused the personal explanation to be made happened to be a member of the Government or the Prime Minister,

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, section 2 dated 22-4-75.

[Shri Shyamnandan Mishra]

does not make any difference A Rule or a Direction cannot be intrepreted or used in such a way that a Member of the Government is put on a high pedestal or in a position of relatively greater advantage than a pritave Member. The operation of a Rule or a Direction cannot admit of any distinction or discrimination. The House functions on the basis of—it cannot swerve from it—the fundamental principle of equality among Members. In the circumstances, I request you to be so pleased as to give your ruling on the following points—(a) Whether Rule 357 and Direction 115C require that advance copies of the relevant statement be made available to the Member whose remarks warrant personal explanation ?; Also, whether four copies are to be supplied to the Lok Sabha Secretariat? (b) Whether in the matter of supply of advance copy any discrimination can be made in favour of a Member of the Government? (c) If the replies to (a) and (b) are in the negative, whether supply of advance copy of the statement of Shri Morarji Desai to the Prime Minister did not constitute a breach of order?

MR SPEAKER: Thank you very much You have brought in something which, in my opinion, is a matter which needs much consideration.

I have seen that either we follow a rule or direction or practice or convention The practice has been that when you make a personal explanation with respect to which a Minister is involved, we inform the Minister also This has been followed in this House Even today you will have seen in the case of the statement under Direction 115 that Shri Swaran Singh was informed about it, and along with that he has also spoken. The principle involved is almost the same

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): The only difference is that he gets my copy but I do not get his.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I will come to that.

MR. SPEAKER: In the case of the Prime Minister's statement, the Prime Minister was not making a personal explanation so that a copy could be given to the other member.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Allegation.

MR SPEAKER: This was a statement and out of that statement, Shri Morarji Desai came with a personal explanation That is the only difference.

The basic principle we follow is that if it is a question brought by a member under 115, we send that to the Minister. Then if the member is not satisfied, the member has got the right to reply, as the practice goes The practice has been there. There is no specific rule on this. It is for the Rules Committee to examine it, or let the practice go on as it has been going on

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: My submission is that it should go on without discrimination

MR SPEAKER: There is no discrimination.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: This matter should be made absolutely clear that no discrimination can be exercised in favour of a member of the Government If this rule has to prevail, it has to prevail in relation to all the members of the House

MR SPEAKER I will just explain it to you I think it was quite a lucky thing, because in such matters they are not done just privately or secretly When Shri D N Singh, our MP, brought it, in his very presence, I said, 'Well, I think the Prime Minister should be present when this statement is made because this is concerning her'.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: That was very right of you.

MR SPEAKER: I also said that I would inform her that this is the subject on which Shri Morarji Desai is making a personal explanation so that if some information is needed or some other explanation is needed from her, she may

be in a position to reply I do not think there is anything wrong in this principle. There is no discrimination.

I leave it to you to decide whether it should go before the Rules Committee. They may examine it and give a direction. But so far as the practices and conventions that are followed are concerned, we cannot defend them by quoting a rule. This is just the practice that has been followed in the House.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Only one more submission. The practice must be in relation to every member. We have found that we have never been supplied. . .

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Earlier.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: ....an advance copy of a personal explanation But in this particular case, an advance copy was made available to the Prime Minister.

MR SPEAKER: Only if it involves the member. If it does not involve the member, there is no need for it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order. I was asked to give a copy of my personal explanation statement well in advance. I should say they wanted it latest by Saturday, that is, three days earlier. But what Shri Swaran Singh has said to day, a copy of it was never given to me so that I could take into consideration how much more misleading materials are in that also.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): I gave a detailed statement when I gave a reply and I had said that it might be passed on to the hon. member.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: When?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: Before that.

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): It does not concern you. He is talking about the procedure here.

MR. SPEAKER: These statements are all there half an hour earlier than they come to the House. There is no question about it.

If you want it to be examined by the Rules Committee, you can get it examined.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I am on a point of order. I am asking a clarification: whether it is or it is not a fact that your Secretariat demanded from me to give advance copy of my statement three days earlier, whether it is a fact or not that they did not ask for the same from Sardar Swaran Singh who is a Member of the House, may be a Minister? Was it ever passed on to me three days earlier? It was not. So, there is discrimination and you are constantly making observations which we cannot understand.

MR. SPEAKER: Your statement was sent to him and he has come with a statement.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I should get three days earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: It will be a never ending system.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: My submission is this. Whenever we make any allegation against any Member of the Government or against any Member of the House and the person concerned makes a personal explanation as a result thereof, are we supplied—I ask you—with advance copies of the personal explanation? We are never supplied with advance copies of the personal explanation.

MR. SPEAKER: I thought that the Prime Minister should be there because your Member was present and it was in his presence. Don't you think that the Prime Minister should be present I asked and he said: yes. I said: she must know what is coming. If it had been objected to, then I would not have gone on for this.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: How can we object to the presence of the Prime Minister in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: I think the Prime Minister should have been here.

SHRI DINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Now that you propose to send to the Rules Committee. . .

MR. SPEAKER: I am not sending. Members can do so. He may like to present it in his own way and perhaps I may not be able to present it to the Rules Committee in the way he wants to.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: This does not relate only to something that happens between the Government and a Member. There can be a personal explanation against something said by another Member and Government may not be in the picture. Whatever may be decided should also be decided in relation to this matter also, that is when a member gives an explanation against something which is said by another Member.

MR. SPEAKER: The other day when Mr. Goenka was involved, he was informed that so and so was coming with a statement and he should be present here.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I am not confusing your request to the Prime Minister to be present on that occasion with the supply of advance copy It was very right on your part to have asked the Prime Minister to be present on that particular occasion. To that I am not objecting. But I am taking objection to the discrimination exercised in favour of the Prime Minister by way of supplying an advance copy of the personal explanation.

MR SPEAKER: It is not discrimination; it is the practice. You can ask the Secretary-General instances and he will produce them before you.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Would you be good enough to tell us any occasion of supply of advance copies of personal explanations? Never. I should like to go into this.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't go on hair-splitting. When the Prime Minister is to be present, I think I should tell her why she should be present.

SHRI SEZHIYAN: The Prime Minister also made a statement. He is asking whether a copy of that statement was given in advance.

श्री मधु लिमये (बांका) : प्रधान मंत्री के वक्तव्य की कापी मोरारजी देसाई को देनी चाहिये थी ।

MR. SPEAKER: On principle, there was nothing wrong about it. If you want that there should be some set of rules for it, we may have it.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: The facility granted to the Prime Minister should be available to other members also.

Another point which deserves your consideration is this. The Prime Minister made certain allegations against Shri Morarji Desai There is a rule that when any allegation is to be made by an hon member against another hon. member advance intimation has to be given to the member concerned and also to the Chair. Was this rule observed in this case?

MR. SPEAKER: When Mr. Morarji Desai gave the statement under Rule 357, there were controversial and debatable matters in that and I felt that those will not form part of the statement. But I did not insist, keeping in view his elderly position.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: That was strictly within the rules. The point for consideration is, when the Prime Minister made certain allegations against Shri Morarji Desai, whether an advance copy of it should be sent to Shri Morarji Desai.

MR. SPEAKER: There were no allegations in her statement. If I found any allegation, I could have done it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Yesterday, Mr. Madhu Limaye, Mr. Vajpayee and Mr. Sezhiyan had made certain observations which compel me to come before the House to make a personal statement. I have written to you in this regard. If you permit me to raise it today, I am ready. Or else, I shall be guided by your directions.

MR. SPEAKER: Not at this stage. We have some other matters on the agenda.

श्री मधु लिमये : इनका टर्म खत्म होने के पहले इनका स्पष्टीकरण हम चाहते हैं ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I want to raise this issue of the mass rape of girls in Ballia...

MR. SPEAKER: Raising something under rule 377 is not a daily phenomenon. I am not bound to do it. If you see the history of it, it was allowed once or twice. But nowadays there is no end to it. So much is happening and everything cannot come here in between the agenda. This has already been raised in the State Assembly.

This matter relates to the State. It was raised there. We read this morning I have already accepted one by Shri Sezhiyan, I am not allowing others.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Do you want a Harijan girl to be raped like this?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Export of girls to the Middle East for immoral traffic. It is shameful.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: This happened in U. P Shri Sarjoo Pandey comes from Ballia. You asked the Minister to make a statement. This relates to Harijans. It is the duty of the Home Minister.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अपकी जो बात है वह भेज देंगे ।

You ask me to decide about the admission of motions here. This is not the proper way. I cannot judge motions while sitting here. Everyday it comes like this asking for one minute, two minutes. It is a daily affair. I am not going to yield. No, no, not at all, if this is going to be a daily practice. Everyday you get up.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I am not doing it every day. Why don't you give me an opportunity? I expect the Chair to react to certain things. You are a human being.

MR. SPEAKER: But I am also the Speaker occupying the Chair. Perhaps you may not be more than me as a human being.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The Speaker speaks the whole day. You do not allow us to speak.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It is a matter for regret that the question cannot be raised by Shri Banerjee.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want your comment.

13.22 hrs.

MATTER UNDER RULE 377

FAILURE OF GOVERNMENT TO LAY ON THE TABLE APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORTS IN RESPECT OF PONDICHERRY

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam): I want to invite the attention of the House to a serious lapse on the part of the Government in not placing on the Table of the House the Audit Reports that have been submitted in respect of certain States and Union Territories under President's rule.

At the present, the State of Gujarat is under President's Rule and this Parliament has been given the powers and the functions of the Assembly there. The same is the case with the Union Territory of Pondicherry. There is also the legislature has been dissolved and the functions have been transferred to Parliament.

On the 25th March I raised the question and you also said that a hint had been given to the Government that the respective Audit Reports in respect of these States under President's rule whether they are suspended under a particular provision or not, should be made available to the House. Your categorical direction has not been fulfilled so far.

In regard to the Pondicherry Assembly, I find that the Appropriation Accounts and the Audit Reports of 1971-72 and 1972-73 have been submitted by the Comptroller and Auditor General

[Shri Sezhiyan]

to the concerned authorities. So far those reports have not been placed on the Table of the House as per the specific provisions of the Government of Union Territories Act. Section 49 of that Act expressly says that it should be placed on the Table of the Legislature. After dissolution of the Legislature, its functions have come to Parliament and they should have been placed on the Table of this House There is a failure on the part of Government in not doing this.

Incidentially I have raised the question of Gujarat also. For the year 1972-73 the accounts and the Audit Report have already been submitted by the Auditor General, but they have not been placed on the Table so far. These two are very serious lapses against the powers and effective functions of the House Inspite of your directions given on 25th March when I raised the same question in respect of Nagaland, the Government has not taken care to place these Reports on the table of this House. Without these Reports being placed on the Table of the House, we cannot refer them to the Public Accounts Committee, and these audit reports will not be taken into consideration at all. Therefore, I would like to know why these serious lapses were allowed to happen in respect of Pondichery and Gujarat.

MR SPEAKER· You will reply now or later?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Later on.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): I gave notice under rule 377.

MR. SPEAKER: Not now.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I will take half a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: Not even half a minute.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I have not been told that it has not been admitted. I only want half a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: You do it everyday. I am not going to allow. I have not called you.

MR. S. M BANERJEE (Kanpur): raised a point of order

MR SPEAKER: On what?

SHRI S. M BANERJEE On what you have said

In this particular case you were so generous that you asked the Minister whether he wants to reply now or later In other cases it is simply noted Whether it is noted or not, even that I do not know.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a constitutional point.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE· You asked Mr Pant to make a statement He has flouted your direction That is for your information.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU. These pharmaceutical employees ***

MR SPEAKER: You cannot speak Nothing will go on record

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13.28 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1975-76—*Contd.*

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE—*Contd.*

SHRI M. SUDARSANAM (Narasaraopet): I should like to offer a few suggestions.

First, our export strategy must clearly recognise that the first pre-requisite of enlarging our exports is to create export surpluses and strengthen the domestic production base with a special eye on items which have larger growth potential. In this exercise, the immediate need is to promote production of items like basmati rice, sugar,

***Not recorded.

cement, engineering goods and chemicals, for these have an expanding export market. Secondly, Government support must be given in the fullest measure to enable industry and trade to be competitive and to adhere to delivery schedules. In other words, compensatory cash support measures must be streamlined and if parties have taken export orders, they must be persuaded to fulfil them to the satisfaction of the foreign buyers. Thirdly, both from a short and long-term point of view, the emphasis should be placed increasingly on project exports, export of consultancy services, turn-key jobs and subcontracting. I am glad to know in this connection that the Commerce Ministry have taken appreciative note of the efforts made by enterprcneurs in setting up joint ventures, construction activity, mining exploration, etc. (Chapter IV—Pages 58—61).

13.29 hours.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

In this connection, I should like to suggest that a revolving fund of at least Rs. 10 crores to begin with, should be set up to be given to Indian entrepreneurs, on a loan basis for promoting their efforts in this regard. Loans can be of a short-term duration and the fund can become fully-self-financing. One can even think of seeking international support for this effort because this could be the one form of implementing the resolutions adopted by UN CTAD and other forums for promoting economic integration and trade cooperation among developing countries. Fourthly, there should be a total reorientation—I repeat the words "total reorientation"—of our import substitution effort because, contrary to what is mentioned from time to time, a healthy import substitution policy holds the key to solving our balance of trade and balance of payments difficulties.

The vast technological skills and the manpower available in India can enable it to set up a number of import substitution industries, provided effort is made and the necessary infrastructure is created in the form of somewhat easier availability of energy and transport. I personally feel sure that the present economic difficulties are of a short-run duration and one must plan ahead to put up plants quickly for items like fertilisers, newsprint, paper, cement, steel, heavy machinery, etc. The approach should be to analyse the problems not only on an industry-wise basis but also on a unit-wise basis and if the foreign exchange saving is proved adequately by the entrepreneurs concerned, every support must be provided. I am quit aware that this matter does not fall entirely within the domain of the Commerce Ministry but I should like the Commerce Minister to play an increasingly important role in this matter which also involves the framing of an appropriate pricing policy for a number of industries where growth has been sluggish.

This brings me to the question of the new import policy which was announced on the 7th April. It was indeed a remarkable thing on the part of Government to have introduced the system of automatic licensing by cutting out the procedure of receiving applications through the sponsoring authorities and for liberalising the import of spare-parts, etc. This and other measures for simplification of procedures would go a long way in making the entrepreneurial class feel that the Government's commercial policies are responsive to the needs of the situation.

While on this point, I should just like to reiterate some of the recommendations which the Sub-Committee had made in regard to the disbursement of cash assistance and drawback facilities for exports. I am afraid, much more in this direction needs to be done. The delays should be cut particularly because of continuing severe monetary stringency. I should also like to state in this context that the provision of export finance should be on a much more liberal basis and at rates much below 11.5 per cent. This is because all over the world to fight receptionary conditions, the bank rates are being gradually

[Shri M. Sundarsanam]

brought down and as far as export finance is concerned, we have to match our effort with that of our competitors. In this connection, there is also paramount need for setting up an Export-Import Bank which matter has been under examination of the Government but of which no mention is made in the report of the Ministry of Commerce. However, I see a news item that the Committee is likely to make a favourable recommendation on the Export-Import Bank.

Yet another point which I would like to urge concerns the setting up of a Dry Port in or near Delhi. This is mentioned on page 56 of the Report, I think, it is for at least ten years now that the matter is stated to be under consideration. It should move into another stage from consideration to implementation.

As far as India's export effort is concerned, I should like to make reference to the very valuable report that has been submitted by the FICCI delegation to West Asian countries. The oil rich countries, including Iran, have tremendous purchasing power notwithstanding their comparatively small population. The whole world is knocking at their doors and with appropriate effort, we can forge new economic and trading relationships with them. In other words, what I suggest is that we should give increasing attention in our building up trade relationship with the oil rich countries. I am happy that the President of India would be visiting Indonesia *from 5th May, this* year. Indonesia has now adopted very pragmatic policies for economic growth and her potential for making purchases from India and our setting up joint ventures there is fairly large. I feel sure that the visit of the President will pave the way for building larger trade with Indonesia.

Here, I would like to add that we must think of rehabilitation of war-torn economy of Vietnam and Cambodia and this can provide us good trading opportunities. Therefore, a delegation must be sponsored to go to Cambodia and also to Vietnam.

A Pakistani delegation is due in Delhi today We must try to improve our trade relations with them, in spite of the very unhappy political situation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wish to make a reference to the problems of the cotton textile and jute industries which are under the charge of the Commerce Ministry. The cloth production in the country showed some rise in the year 1974. Mill production rose by 117 million metres to 4.286 million metres, and the production in the decentralised sector amounted to 4,000 million metres as compared with 7,771 million metres in 1973. In the last four or five months, however, the industry has been facing growing difficulties due, among others, to the doubling of the controlled cloth obligation from 400 million square metres to 800 million sq. metres, which was introduced over a year ago. Some revised specifications have been drawn up which will result in a rise in the yarn content of controlled cloth and employment of a larger number of spindles and looms. I am afraid that the combined control-cum-export obligation scheme is quite onerous. I would have very readily agreed that this obligation should be fulfilled with grace provided the controlled cloth reached the weaker sections of the society for which it is intended. Unfortunately, I can say fairly categorically that this is not the case and because of the problems in our distribution system, unscrupulous elements make good. The burden of supplying controlled cloth also makes things difficult to the mills under the control of the National Textile Corporation and affects the profitability of the National Textile Corporation as a whole. I would, therefore, make bold to suggest to the Minister of Commerce to think in terms of total decontrol. I would like the Commerce Minister to examine the feasibility of decontrol of prices and distribution of cloth.

Growers of long staple cotton are in serious distress. They have grown this

cotton at the suggestion of the Agriculture Department. In the absence of buyers at adequate prices, the economy of the growers is seriously affected. It is now very essential that long staple cotton is at once allowed for export to overseas by abolishing export duties. Yarns of fine counts also must be allowed for export under some incentive to enable the shippers to compete around the globe.

As far as jute industry is concerned, my suggestion is that the recommendations of the delegation which was headed by the Export Production Secretary, Mr. S. G Bose Mullick, should be implemented as quickly as possible. If sufficient relief is not provided to the jute industry, I am afraid it would cause irreparable damage to our export effort in this line. Here I would like to say that the abolition of export duty on jute goods is most urgent. We hear that the Chief Minister of West Bengal has already recommended abolition of the export duty. The delegation headed by Mr. Bose Mullick has also recommended abolition of the export duty.

In our country, the institutional arrangement of the Chambers of Commerce and the industrial and trade associations needs streamlining. We have any number of central commercial organizations and also in many industries there is more than one industrial association. There is no proper linkage in the industrial associations and Export Promotion Councils. All those matters require a fresh look, and I would suggest that this should be done through the appointment of a committee or by asking an officer on special duty to review this matter.

The Tobacco Board Bill has been introduced and passed. But still we do not see any Tobacco Board functioning in the production area. The Cess Bill has not come. I would request the Commerce Minister to push through the Cess Bill during this Budget Session, so that the tobacco growers can have the benefit of this.

SHRI C. JANARDHANAN (Trichur): I rise to oppose the Demands of the Commerce Ministry.

According to the report of the Ministry, we are in deficit to the tune of Rs. 585 crores in the last nine months of 1974-75 and it is going to increase in the coming months. The Ministry has said it plainly. So many reasons are there. The Ministry says that the worldwide inflation, oil crisis, the need to import foodgrains and more fertilisers, etc., are the main reasons for this deficit balance in our trade It may be the truth of the matter But we cannot take the export-import trade in an isolated way. Our country is in an economic crisis and this is part of the crisis and we cannot separate these things.

Inflation as this Government and some other people are trying to make out is not a world-wide phenomenon. Only in the capitalist countries and countries which have chosen the path of building capitalism is found this phenomenon. Socialist countries or countries which have chosen the path of socialism or social change have no such phenomenon. So India, as a country which has chosen the path of building capitalism has this phenomenon. . . (*Interruptions.*) Then, what are you building?

Simply hobnobbing with the developed capitalist countries would not solve our problem. We have to make a concerted effort to change our domestic policies, and to build more close links with the socialist countries and other developing countries and therein lies our salvation and not in hobnobbing with the developed capitalist countries.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): . . . Such as. . .

SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: . . . USA, West Germany . . .

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: We are hobnobbing with them?

SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Aren't you? So, of late, we see a shift to the

[Shri C. Janardhanan]

right or we see a shift to the pro-monopolists in the policies of the Government. In the industrial development policy it is evident. In the Finance Minister's utterances it is evident and the Commerce Ministry's latest announcement of the import policy on 7th April it is quite evident. The speaker who just spoke from that side showered praises for this import policy. It clearly shows the pro-monopoly shift in the Government's policy because the Government now think that to get out of this crisis in economy, we should give more room or more facilities to expand to the monopoly interests and only in this way we can get out of this crisis. That is the line of their thinking Now, all restrictions have gone on the import policy. It is liberalised in the name of getting out of the red-tape. They have liberalised everythings and given a free hand to big houses to import whatever they want if they are ready to export something. They have already taken out about fourteen items from the canalised list and added only one to the new canalised items list. That shows the trend and the direction in which we are going. We have been asking for nationalisation of complete import-export trade but, in spite of that, they are taking out items which are already in the canalised list. That shows where the policy of the Government is shifting. That is why I say this This shows that there is a new monopoly trend in the Government's policy.

About the need to nationalise the textile industry, about the need to nationalise the foreign-owned tea and rubber plantations, about the sugar industry, etc. we have discussed many times in this House. I would not like to take much time of the House on these matters. But it is high time that these things are done But what we find is this. There are indications to the effect that Government are not going to do these things and that they are not even thinking at present about these things. I would plead with the Government and say that it is urgently necessary to take these steps in the present crisis which this country is facing today.

There are public sector corporations including the State Trading Corporations, which deal with the trade of our country and the volume of business they are doing is increasing day by day. There is no doubt about it. Along with that there are criticisms and various allegations about the functioning of these institutions. I would request the Government to look into them There are allegations about corruption in high places, of the STC. There is allegation that the STC is not entering into the international market at the appropriate time. It is said that they are not helping small exporters. Above all these things, there is the allegation saying that the STC is working as a tool of the monopoly interests of this country. I would like the Ministry to look into these things and do the needful

Now, in Kerala, the cashew workers are on an agitation There is dearth of raw cashewnuts Many factories are closed. Thousands of workers are unemployed Their allegation is this. The Cashew Corporation of India did not enter into international market for buying raw cashewnuts in time. That is way the dearth is there If these allegations are true it is criminal because it affects the lives of thousands of our people. I have to remind the Minister, now we have to look for cashewnuts to some other countries because we cannot get these raw cashewnuts from the African countries as before because they have now got their own factories to process them. We must have more indigenous cashewnuts here. Some four years back (I remember sometime in 1971) the then Deputy Minister of Commerce, Mr. A. C. George assured this House that they are going to have big extensive plantations throughout India in many of the States, . . . so that we will be self-sufficient in cashewnuts. What happened to that? Nothing has appeared in this report about it. What is the progress? I would like to know something about that. If nothing has been done in that respect, I would like to know the reasons for that also.

There are a lot of a commodity boards under this Ministry in the name of Export Promotions. I do not know how many of them are working properly because many of them have no funds and many of them have no powers. Take the case of Coir Board. Like that, so many boards are there. The recent amendment to Tea Board is acceptable and it is a welcome change indeed. But, many of the Boards have no power and have no funds. They have not functioned properly. Recently, the Marine Products Authority was also complaining about these powers. They have no powers even to appoint a small officer. They have no funds. If you want to have a satisfactory functioning of these Commodity Boards, then you must give them more powers and more funds. Then only you can expect satisfactory results from them. When I speak about the Marine Products Authority I want to make a few points about that body.

I have my own difficulties because the subject is divided between the Commerce Ministry and the Agriculture Ministry. The Commerce Ministry has got only the export trade part of it; the development of the industry is with the Agriculture Ministry. It is intimately connected with the development of export trade. So, it is very difficult to separate these two ministries. I would request the Government to consider this aspect of the matter so as to bring all these under one ministry, preferably, under Commerce Ministry so that they can deal with the subject properly.

The Commerce Ministry finds itself at a disadvantage sometimes. The export trade mainly depends upon what we get from the Deep sea. Deep-sea fishing should be developed for the purpose. The Agriculture Ministry is getting more trawlers for them. They were distributed also. In 1964 or 1967 they imported 30 trawlers. In 1974 they imported fifty. And in this Plan period they are going to import some more trawlers. The Commerce Ministry, I think, has no voice in all these things. I want to make only one point. I do not want to discuss the whole thing here. The future of the industry is threatened with seriously. Small and medium enterpreneurs are not being encouraged at all. They were responsible for the development of exports for the last two decades without any. No encouragement or help from Government. They are going to be wiped out from this field. In this developing industry the monopoly interests like Union Carbide, Indian Tobacco, DCM, Birlas and Tatas are also entering. Nobody can deny the fact that they are all monopolists. I am not surprised to see that the Government of India is allowing them to enter into this field because at the very outset I had said that there is a shift in the policy of the Government in promoting these monopoly interests in this country. But, I must say, it is at the cost of small and medium entrepreneurs. The small and medium entrepreneurs are not in a position to buy trawlers without the help of the Government. In reply to a question a few days back I was told by the Minister for Agriculture that Government has no specific scheme to assist the small and medium entrepreneurs. They can get a loan from the bank at the usual rate of interest of 12 to 13 per cent. It is not viable for them to take loan at this high interest and function.

Although the area of operation of the monopoly houses is limited yet the Government are not in a position to implement their own decision. They cannot police the whole sea and see what these monopoly houses are doing. These monopoly houses are entering into the field of small operators. They are buying the catch of the small boats for high prices and hiring the prcoessing factories of small and medium operators. The small and medium operators are in difficulty these days. Many factories have got closed as a result of which many workers are without job. I am sure if it continues to develop like this in the next five years all these small and medium operators will be completely wiped out. I, therefore, suggest setting up a non-official committees to go into this particular subject as to how Government can help the small and medium operators. I also suggest that the

[Shri C. Janardhanan]

Marine Development Authority should be associated with this

SHRI S R DAMANI (Sholapur) Sir, I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Commerce At the very outset I would also like to join in congratulating the hon Minister for the excellent performance in exports This is the first year of the Fifth Plan the growth in exports is to the tune of 33 per cent It is a record increase The exports have increased both in tradition as well as non-traditional items As against a target of Rs 2,200 crores by the end of 31st March 1975 we have reached the figure of Rs 3,250 crores This is a good achievement and this must be maintained in the current year the second year of the Fifth Five Year Plan I will develop on this point later

14 hrs.

Sir, side by side our import has also substantially increased

The trade deficit is very high the gap is very big, about one thousand crores For this there are certain reasons One of the major reasons is that the cost of import of petroleum products has gone up to more than thousand crores of rupees Then we had to import food grains on account of the failure of the monsoon to the tune of Rs 500 crores Then we had also to import fertiliser at a high cost There are many other items like this The result is that the trade gap the trade deficit is Rs 1000 crores The question is how can we reduce this gap? We cannot afford to have this much of trade deficit every year Just now I have mentioned about the need for keeping up the momentum of export next year This will require more efforts This is because last year there was an inflationary trend in the world market, throughout the world which enabled us to increase our exports But, this year, the inflationary trend is not there and there is, in fact, recession Therefore, more efforts are required to maintain this figure and to improve upon this figure The World Bank has also given us warning that we have to make more efforts to fill this gap Therefore, I will suggest that we should make more efforts to capture the markets in oil rich Arab countries Of course, this is not out of the mind of the hon Minister Here, I would like to mention that there are certain things which may sometimes look adverse, but, they may turn out to be favourable in the end For example, we had to pay thousand crores of rupees for importing petroleum products But, we should also remember that these countries these Arab countries, are friendly countries They have got tremendous wealth and they are under-developed They want to develop their countries, they want to develop their own industries They are in need of capital goods as well as consumer goods which they can buy with enormous wealth they have got We have got the resources We can, our country can, manufacture and export the capital goods for the textile industry, for paper plant for sugar plant and all kinds of engineering goods even on turn-key basis We have got tremendous capacity and at present many of our engineering industries and many industries in the public sector, are running with a large percentage of idle capacity We have got surplus steel Today we have great potentialities to increase our exports of consumer goods and capital goods to these countries But here we require salesmanship In this respect we are still lacking We should make more efforts Sir, many friends who have visited these countries have come back with the ideas that we lack in this regard They have said that they have seen big advertisements put up by Japan by USA and so on but that they have not seen any advertisement by India in regard to our products As such salesmanship is required, as I said These countries are trying to capture these markets for trading their goods As such we have to compete with them We have to make vigorous efforts to compete with them, to capture these markets and to supply these goods There is no denying the fact that the hon Minister and the Government are making efforts We should also examine what techniques are being adopted by Japan and other countries to increase their trade There should be some flexibility so that we

can capture these markets for many of our items and we can bridge this trade gap.

Now I come to other subjects, First, Cotton Corporation. Cotton is one of the the biggest of our cash crops feeding the textile industry which is one of the primary industries of the country. For the last three years, the purchases made by the Corporation were very ill-balanced. The ex-Chairman purchased huge quantities of cotton in one State and very little in other States. The prices he paid had also no relevance to the prices prevailing in all parts for the same variety. That chapter was over. But this time, the Cotton Corporation gave an impression that they were going to purchase 15 lakh bales of cotton. Before the season started, they gave the impression that they were preparing for this. The Maharashtra Government also said that they were going to purchase the entire stock of the cotton crop grown in Maharashtra. Our farmers became enthusiastic. They have produced long-staple cotton which we were importing. Now we are producing it in the country to a large extent. This year the crop of long staple cotton in the country is estimated at 20 lakh bales.

But what have the Cotton Corporation done ? They have not purchased any cotton. If I give the figure of their purchase so far, you will be surprised they have purchased only 7,000 bales against an assurance of 15 lakh bales. Is this the way of functioning? Was this the Government's intention ? They are carrying one lakh bales of the previous year's cotton. This year they have purchased 7,000 bales. I do not understand this. They have set up 28 offices and the establishment expenditure on them is near about a crore of rupees a year. Is this the way the Cotton Corporation should function ? The reason given in the Consultative Committee by the hon. Minister is that the RBI has not given them funds and therefore they are helpless as without funds they cannot purchase cotton. I do not understand why before they made the announcement they did not arrange with the RBI or with Government about availability of funds. Without that how did they make this announcement ? The farmers have suffered. What will be the consequence next year ? What will the farmers who have suffered do ? Prices have slumped down. The Agriculture Minister has had to announce that we have to export long staple cotton which we need in the country. This is matter which requires attention.

We have seen the functioning of a Corporation where they did not have funds. Now I will tell you how funds are misused in other corporations under the same Ministry Take MMTC. They are holding stocks of non-ferrous metals worth about Rs. 85 crores. This is the requirement of one year. They have purchased it in advance. There is no demand. Funds are locked up. Every month they are paying Rs. 1 crore by way of interest only, storing and insurance charges about 1/4 crore. The Corporation, is suffering for want of funds. The other Corporation, MMTC has blocked nearly Rs. 100 crores. Still they say: we are very vigilant when we make purchases; we keep a watch on the world market trends. Last year they went on purchasing there items without caring to make sales to the consumer here. About the export or iron ore and manganese ore other friends would talk but I want to move on to another subject. Take the STC They are also holding stocks of newsprint to meet six months' requirements; they also hold drugs and chemicals. They have blocked Rs. 70 crores nearly. Thus about Rs. 150 crores are locked up by these two corporations in holding stocks and their disposal has become a problem. What was the intention of the Government in respect of these Corporations ? The intention was to channelise the imports through those corporations because the private exporters and importers were under-invoicing or over-invoicing. It was not the intention to start trading in such a big way like this and lock the funds of the Government in holding stocks. The intention was whenever there was a buyer they should purchase abroad and deliver it. It was believed that they should be able to get the material at reasonable rates and cheap.

[Shri S. R. Damani]

rates because they were bulk purchasers. The hon. Minister knows it very well and I think he will be taking some action. I suggest that high officials from the Finance and Industry Ministries and other concerned Ministers should hold an enquiry how this thing has happened and what is the average price in International market and what is the price paid by us; it should not be compared with the Indian price but with international price. They must also see whether there was loss or profit in those purchases. I do not want to add the overhead costs like interest, and other things. I want to know whether we had benefited from those purchases or we were the losers. If you want to study such things. you should institute an enquiry to check up on dealings of this nature.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara) : What is the Committee on Public Undertakings doing about this ?....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI S.R. DAMANI : It may take three or four years to find out.

I want this to be done immediately . . . (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER : It is a mixed fight.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am grateful to him because the debate has become somewhat somnolent.

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : I want to say somethnig about controlled cloth. Out of every four metres of cloth produced in the country, one metre should be controlled cloth and half a meter is meant for export. Controlled cloth is being sold at a price which is less by 90 paise or a rupee of its cost price. On exports, we incur a loss of 60 paise per metre because we have to compete with Pakistan, Hong Kong and other countries where the cost of production is lower by about 25% compared to ours. So, out of every 4 metres of cloth produced, 1 metre is standard cloth on which we lose 90 paise and ½ meter is exported on which we lose 60 paise. The remaining 2½ metres are sold to the consumers like us. The losses sustained on exports and on standard cloth are loaded on the cost of production of the remaining 2½ metres by about 60 to 70 paise per metre. This is the fallacy.

The controlled cloth, whether it is coarse or medium count, is not to the taste of the public. Public taste has changed. We are manufacturing cloth which was not even in demand 25 years ago. Times have changed and so also consumer tastes. Government feel satisfied that it is procuring standard cloth and supplying it. The industry also feels satisfied that it is doing its duty. But no one takes the trouble to find out its utility. I drew the attention of the Minister to this last year when the quantity of standard cloth produced was increased from 400 to 800 metres per annum. I said, please check up the quality and go slow. My advice was not heeded. The result is, at present more than 80,000 bales of controlled cloth are lying unsold, even though a subsidy of 90 paise per metre is involved. We want to know the reason for this, whether the quality is bad or whether the distribution system is defective. We are suffering a loss of Rs. 120 crores due to exports and sale of standard cloth. If this can be avoided, to that extent the public can get cloth cheaper because the cost of the free market sale cloth can be brought down. The Minister should ask the industry to supply 25% of the production of all varieties of cloth, fine, super-fine, medium etc. at cost price. The cost price should be worked out by the Textile Commissioner with the help of cost accountants. Secondly, instead of giving cash incentive on exports, for many items used by the industry, I suggest that export should be linked with import entitlement which will compensate the exporters for the loss they incur on the exports. This can be worked out and the consumers will get the benefit of Rs. 125 crores which they have to pay for this reason.

I hope the hon. Minister will consider these points and while replying throw light on these,

डॉ० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडे (मंदसौर) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, वाणिज्य मंत्रालय की ओर से प्रतिवर्ष अपनी आयात और निर्यात सम्बन्धी नीति की घोषणा की जाती है । हर वर्ष इस बात की आशा की जाती है की हमारा निर्यात काफी बढ़ेगा और आयात कम होगा और हम अपने निर्यात तथा आयात के वर्तमान असतुलन को संतुलित कर सकेंगे । लेकिन जैसा कि वाणिज्य मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट वर्ष 1974-75 में बताया गया है, यह असतुलन निरन्तर बढ़ ा जा रहा है । इस रिपोर्ट की प्रस्तावना के प्रथम पृष्ठ में लिखा है – "परिणामस्वरूप, गत वर्ष की तरह, चालू वर्ष के दौरान व्यापार सतुलन प्रतिकूल रहा है, और निर्यातों तथा आयातों के बीच अन्तर बढ़ गया है ।" आगे चल कर इसमें बताया गया है कि–" पिछले वर्ष की उतनी ही अवधि में 164 करोड रुपये का घाटा था । वर्ष की शेष अवधि के दौरान यह असन्तुलन और बढने का अनुमान है"।

जहा एक ओर नीति सम्बन्धी वक्तव्यो में या नीतियों की घोषणा करते समय इस बात की आशा की जाती है, विश्वास दिलाया जाता है कि हमारा असतुलन बढेगा नही, वह घटेगा, लेकिन वह असतुलन निरन्तर बढता जा रहा है । इसलिये इस परिप्रेक्ष्य मे नीति के निर्धारण के समय इस बात को देखने की आवश्यकता है कि वास्तव में हमारे नीति निर्धारण में कहा दोष है और हम किस प्रकार से उसको ठीक कर सकते हैं । जो जानकारी मेरे पास विभिन्न रिपोर्टों के आधार पर, विभिन्न समीक्षाओं के आधार पर प्राप्त हुई है, उसके अनुसार कहा जा सकता है कि वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के कार्य-कलाप में निरन्तर गिरावट आई है, उसमें काफी दोष पाये गये हैं । चाहे फिर वे आयात लाइसेन्स के बारे में हों, निर्यात के बारे में हों या निर्यात संवर्धन के बारे में हों हमारी परम्परागत या गैर-परम्परागत वस्तुओं के निर्यात या आयात के सम्बन्ध में विभिन्न अवसरों पर दिये गय वक्तव्य के फलस्वरूप हों । मैं माननीय मंत्री का ध्यान कुछ चीजों की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं ।

हम आशा करते थे कि हमारा निर्यात बढ़ेगा । लेकिन हमारी जो परम्परागत वस्तुएं रही हैं, उनका निर्यात घटा है और उसके कारण हमारे आयात और निर्यात सम्बन्धी सन्तुलन में काफी अन्तर बढ़ गया है और इसी कारण हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति भी काफी खराब हुई है । मंत्री महोदय इस बात को स्वीकार करेंगे कि हमारे निर्यात सम्बन्धी जो आकडे है, उसके कारण, पिछले दिनों जो चाय का निर्यात हम कर रहे थे, उसमें काफी अन्तर हुआ है । काफी निर्यात घटा है और उस निर्यात को हम ठीक ढंग से नही कर सके हैं । दूसरी कई वस्तुएं है जिनका निर्यात घटा है । इसके चाहे कुछ भी कारण हों, हमने निर्यात सवर्धन की दिशा में कोई ठीक से प्रयत्न भी नही किये हैं । किन किन देशों को निर्यात कर सकते हैं या किस को नही किया गया, किस प्रकार निर्यात करें, इस पर गंभीरता से विचार नही किया गया है ।

हम यू०के० और यू०एस०ए० को निरन्तर चाय का निर्यात करते रहे है और वहा हमारा एकाधिकार स्थापित रहा है । इस बार हमने यू०एस०एस०आर० को भी थोडा टटोला है । हमने यु० एस० एस० आर० को आज के व्यापार के मामले मे उनकी एजेन्सी के माध्यम से चाय खरीदने की इजाजत दी है । क्या हम इस काम को एस०टी०सी० के माध्यम से नही करवा सकते थे ? यू०एस०एस० आर० के लोग दार्जिलिंग मे सीधे जाये और बागान में जाकर चाय खरीदे, क्या यह स्थिति ठीक है, अनुकुल बताई जा सकती है ? मंत्री महोदय इसके बारे मे बताये ।

मेरे केरल के एक मित्र ने बताया कि एक विशेष प्रकार की चाय है जिसको उन्होने जापान के अपने एक मित्र को भेजा । उस चाय के लिये वहां से काफी आर्डर आये । वह विशेष प्रकार की चाय यहां के बागों में काफी पाई गई । मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा कि

[श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण पाण्डे]

क्या हम इस प्रकार की और भी क्वालिटीज को खोजने का प्रयत्न नहीं कर सकते । अगर इन विशेष किस्मों की खोज कर के एक्सपोर्ट करने का प्रयत्न करें तो हमें ज्यादा बेदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त हो सकती है और हमें विदेशों से काफी आर्डर भी प्राप्त हो सकते है ।

इसी तरह से मैं टोबैको, तम्बाकू पर आता हूं । इसमें भी काफी स्लैकनैस आई है और काफी तम्बाकू का स्टाक हो गया था । आजकल वर्जीनिया तम्बाकू ही दूसरे देशो को निर्यात की जाती है । क्या दूसरी प्रकार के तम्बाकू को हम विदेशों को निर्यात नहीं कर सक है ? क्या आपने इस ओर ध्यान दिया है ? आप तम्बाकू बोर्ड कायम करने के बारे में एक बिल लाये थे, जिसको आपने पास भी करवाया था । आप आशा करते थे कि इस बोर्ड के बन जाने से तम्बाकू का निर्यात काफी बढेगा । मैं जानता हूं कि इसमें क्या कुछ गति हुई है ? तम्बाकू की विभिन्न प्रकार की किस्मो की खोज कर के इसका अगर निर्यात किया जाये तो काफी उसमें विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त हो सकती है और इसका काफी बाजार भी मिल सकता है ।

अब मैं पापी-हास्क के बारे मे कुछ कहना चाहता हू । युगोस्लाविया इसका बहुत बडा खरीददार है । करोडो रुपये का पापी हास्क हम निर्यात करते है । इसकी किसान को जो कीमत मिलती है वह 30, 40 रुपये क्विंटल ही मिलती है जब कि बाजार भाव 300–400 रुपये क्विंटल है । विदेशों में इसकी कीमत 800, 900 रुपये क्विंटल है । हमको देखना चाहिये कि हम किस प्रकार से इसका निर्यात ठीक ढंग से कर सकते है, चैनेलाइज कर सकते हैं और साथ ही साथ किस प्रकार से किसानों को उचित कीमत दिला सकते हैं । क्या और भी देश पापी-हुस्क के खरीदार हो सकते है ? आप इस बारे में भी प्रयत्न करें ।

अब मैं कपड़ा उद्योग के बारे में कहना चाहता हू । यह हमारा बहुत [illegible] है

मंत्रालय की नीति कुछ इस प्रकार की रही है कि उसके कारण यह उद्योग बिल्कुल ठप्प हो गया है । इसकी लगभग 400 फैक्टरियां थीं जिसमें से 200 फैक्टरियां लगभग बन्द हो गई हैं । इससे 25 हजार लोग बेकार हो गये है । 25 लाख आदिवासी जो कल्टीवेशन करते थे उनके सामने जीवन-मरण का प्रश्न उपस्थित हो गया है । एक साल पहले जहां आदिवासियों को लगभग 11 रुपये प्रति किलो दाम मिलता था, अब वह डेढ पया प्रति किलो ही मिलता है । 30-5-74 के पहले अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार मे इसका मूल्य 3200 रुपये प्रति 75 किलोग्राम के एक बैग का था, तब मार्केट में इसका रेट 2900 रुपये तथा मिनिमम एक्सपोर्ट कीमत 471 रुपये थी । बाद मे आन्तर्राष्ट्रीय रेट गिरे तब 1-4-75 के बाद गिरे रेट पर इसे उठाने के लिये कोई तैयार नही हुआ । इस कारण से यह ओवर-इन्वायसिंग का मामला बनता है । अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मार्केट मे रेट कुछ कम था और हमारे यहा ज्यादा था इस कारण रेट को वह नीचे लाना चाहते थे । 1-4-75 के बाद अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय प्राइस 1000 रुपये हुई और हमारे यहा एक्सपोर्ट प्राइस 1844 रुपये की गई कुल मिलाकर आज कलकत्ता मे 400 रुपये कीमत है । प्रति 75 किलोग्राम के बैग की इंटरनेशनल मार्केट मे कीमत 1000 रुपये है और आपने एक्सपोर्ट के लिये जो तय किया है वह 1844 रुपये है । इसका परिणाम यह है कि विदेशों मे जब इसका [illegible] जाता है तो 1844 एक्सपोर्ट मार्केट प्राइस पर भेजा जाता है । गलत इन्वायसिंग से ऐसा किया जाता है । जो दलाल बैठे हुए है वह 844 रुपये की राशि को किसी रूप मे एडजेस्ट कर लेते है और 600 रुपये उनको सीधे-सधे बच जाते है । इसका परिणाम यह है कि कपडा उद्योग घाटे में जा रहा है, नष्ट हो रहा है । कुछ अधिकारी हो सकते हैं, जो मिलकर यह सारा काम कर रहे हों, इसकी आप जाच करें । मै कुछ फर्मों के नाम भी इस सम्बन्ध में दे सकता हूं ।

एक नाम है समरसिंह जायस्वाल (प्रा०) लि०, पार्क-स्ट्रीट, कलकत्ता 1 और दूसरा नाम है अचक राम काडकाफ प्रा० लि०, स्टीफेन हाउस, 5, डलहौजी एक्वेयर, कलकत्ता है। यह जर्मनी फर्मों के साथ मिलकर डील रहे हैं। ये किस प्रकार से कर रहे हैं, मंत्री महोदय इसकी खोज करने का प्रयत्न करें।

श्री नरेंद्र कुमार सल्वे (बैतुल) : माल प्रैक्टिसेज हैं या क्या है ?

डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डे : गलत ढंग का इन्वायरिंग करते है, खुद काफी कमाते हैं मिल-मिलाकर के। (व्यवधान)

मै माननीय मंत्री महोदय का एक बात की और ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। हमारे यहा एक वैस्टन इलैक्ट्रानिक्स लि०, मोखल मे है। यह इलैक्ट्रानिक्स लि० फर्म टी० वी० ट्रांजिस्टर्स और टेप-रिकार्डर आदि तैयार करते है। उन्होंने मेरी जानकारी के अनुसार लन्दन मे एक बोगस फर्म बना रखी है। जिसके द्वारा उन्होंने काफी बोगस आर्डर प्राप्त किये हैं। यहा पर इन आर्डर्स को इस फर्म ने मंत्रालय को दिखाया और 20 परसेंट की जो छूट इन चीजो मे निर्यात के नाम पर मिलती है, उसको उन्होंने प्राप्त किया। वास्तव में इस प्रकार की कोई फर्म वहां विदेश मे नही है। उस वैस्टन इलैक्ट्रानिक्स के जो भागीदार हैं उनके नाम में माननीय मंत्री को बताना चाहूंगा। एक रोनकसिंह है, दूसरे वाचवानी है और तीसरा नाम तो, मुझे आश्चर्य है कि संजय गांधी तक का आया है। उनका नाम भी इसमें जोडा गया है कि वह भी इसमे पार्टनर हैं वैस्टन इलैक्ट्रानिक्स में, जिसने लन्दन में अपना आफिस बताकर 20 परसेंट की जो छूट होती है वह छूट प्राप्त करने की कोशिश की है। मैं माननीय मंत्री से चाहूंगा कि वह इस बारे में जांच करें। इसी प्रकार से एक और मामला मेरे सामने आया है जो अत्यन्त ही आश्चर्यजनक मामला है। मंत्री महोदय इस के बारे में पूरा स्पष्टीकरण करने की कृपा करेंगे। एक कानपुर की फर्म है। हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स में 24-1-75 को इस के बारे मे यह निकला है :

"Kanpur firm made crores at Government expense.

The facts of the case, as the CBI found were that a Kanpur machine tool firm, Swadeshi, applied for an import licence for steel in 1972. The application was forwarded through the Director of Industries to the office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. Nobody thought it necessary to investigate the company's turnover or question the need for such a huge amount of stainless steel."

यह स्टेनलेस स्टील का मामला है।

"The file was rushed through with amazing speed and within four months of the application, it was processed and the licences issued.

What the CBI found surprising was that the Commerce Ministry had given the import licence on subsidised rates. That is, against the import cost to the Government of Rs. 28 a kilo, the money charged from the company was only Rs. 18 a kilo."

यह सबसिडाइज रेट पर जो इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस दिया जाता है यह केवल डिफेंस के कामों के लिए दिया जाता है, जो डिफेंस प्रोडक्शन करते हैं। लेकिन इस को सबसिडाइज रेट पर दिया गया जिनका डिफेंस से सम्बन्ध बनता हो नहीं है।

"Normally, the bulk import is through a Government agency which in turn give to the import licence holders. This is reserved only for defence establishments in times of grave emergency so that production of defence items does not suffer."

यह इस को दिया गया स्टेनलेस स्टील का इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस और करोड़ों रुपया इस फर्म ने कमाया। सीबीआई की इस के अन्दर इन्वायरी हुई। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि लाईसेंस जारी करने के अन्दर जो फेवरिटिज्म है और जिस प्रकार

[श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय]

के घोटाले हैं उस का यह एक नमूना है । मैं चाहता हूं कि सारे तथ्य सदन के सामने रखे जायें ।

एक और मामला मैं ड्रग लाइसेंस के बारे में उठाना चाहता हूं । इन्दौर के अन्दर कुछ फर्मों ने ड्रग्स के लाइसेंस मांगे थे के एक दो नहीं सैकड़ों व्यक्तियों की यह सूची है जिस में कुछ ग्रुप हैं, कुछ इंडिविज्युअल्स है जिन्होंने लाइसेंस मांगा है । इन फर्मों में बहुत सारी अस्तित्व में ही नहीं हैं जिन को कि लाइसेंस दिए गए और एक बार नहीं रिपीटेडली दिए गए । मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि ज्वाइंट कंट्रोलर क्या कर रहे थे ? संबंधित कानून के सेक्शन फाइव के अन्दर क्यों नहीं इन के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की गई ? मध्य प्रदेश विधान सभा में यह मामला वहां उठा है। सी बी आई की एन्क्वायरी उस के बाद इस के बारे में क्यों नहीं कराई गई ? रिपोर्ट आप के पास आई है, वह आप के पास मौजूद है । उस के आधार पर आप कार्यवाही कर सकते थे । एक ग्रुप है खण्डेलवाल गोपीकिशन मुरलीधर और घनश्याम गुप्ता तथा अन्य का, इस सारे ग्रुप ने लगभग दस लाख रुपये का लाइसेंस प्राप्त किया । दूसरा ग्रुप है घनश्यामदास अग्रवाल तथा अन्य का इस ने 13 लाख रुपये का लाइसेंस प्राप्त किया । तीसरा ग्रुप है श्याम खण्डेलवाल तथा अन्य का, इस ने 4 लाख रुपये का लाइसेंस प्राप्त किया । चौथा ग्रुप है के० जी० श्याम काकाणी और विमला काकाणी एण्ड को तथा अन्य इस ने 4 लाख रुपये का लाइसेंस प्राप्त किया है । पांचवा ग्रुप है पी० एल० सिसोदिया और चन्द्रकान्त सिसोदिया तथा अन्य का इस ने तीन लाख रुपये के लाइसेंस प्राप्त किये । छटा ग्रुप है के पाचाल तथा अन्य का इस ने 2 लाख रुपये के लाइसेंस प्राप्त किये । सातवां है जय प्रकाश सागर मल तथा अन्य का इन्होने 2 लाख रुपये के लाइसेंस प्राप्त किये । गोस्वामी तथा अन्य ने एक लाख रुपये के लाइसेंस प्राप्त किये । इन्होंने और दूसरे सब लोगों ने मिला कर कुल साढ़े तीन करोड़ के लाइसेंस प्राप्त किए । यहां पर 20 लाख रुपये का तुलमोहन राम का केस आया और एक बड़ा भारी लाइसेंस स्कैंडल बन गया । लेकिन यह साढ़े तीन करोड़ रुपये का मामला है । माननीय मंत्री जी इस की जानकारी प्राप्त करेंगे तो इस में बड़े बड़े लोगों का हाथ सिद्ध होगा । यहां तक हो सकता है हमारे राज्य के मंत्री गण भी इस में सम्मिलित हो सकते हैं । प्रत्यक्ष या अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से । हमारे कुछ दूसरे साथी भी इस में प्रत्यक्ष या अप्रत्यक्ष रुप में शामिल हो सकते हैं । इसलिए इस लाइसेंस कांड की जांच होना आवश्यक है । मैं ने आप को ग्रुप्स के नाम बताए हैं । इनके बारे में निश्चित जांच होनी चाहिए । ये सब लोग अलग अलग ग्रुप के हैं । ये इन्दौर के हैं, बुरहानपुर के हैं, रतलाम का भी एक नाम है । रतलाम तो मेरे यहां से 18 20मील दूर है, इस तरह की कोई कम्पनी मेरी जानकारी में वहां नहीं है और लाइसेंस ईश्यू हुए हैं । एक बार नहीं रिपीटेडली ईश्यू हुए हैं । ज्वाइंट डायरेक्टर ने फिर भी नियम के तहत कार्यवाही क्यों नहीं की? विधान सभा के अन्दर मामला उठा । संभवत: वहां कहा गया कि यह फाड का मामला है । मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहूगा कि यह केवल फाड का केस नहीं है । इस में सी बी आई की एन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिए । बड़े बड़े लोग इस के अन्दर शामिल हैं एक दो लाख का मामला नहीं है, साढ़े तीन करोड़ का प्रश्न इस के अन्दर सन्निहित है और एक बार नहीं, दूसरी बार या रिपीडेडली लाइसेंस दिए गए । इम्पोर्ट एक्सपोर्ट के ज्वाइंट डायरेक्टर हैं वह क्या करते रहे ? क्यों नहीं उन्हे ने कार्यवाही की।

एक प्रश्न और मैं सामने रखना चाहता हूं । शिवचरण लाल दुर्गादास बम्बई की एक फर्म है । यह पोलिस्टर फिलामेंन्ट का धन्धा करती है । बर्मा से इस ने बिना सी सी पी के माल प्राप्त किया । सी सी पी आया नहीं और माल पहले ही प्राप्त कर लिया । माननीय मंत्री जी इस की जांच करवाने की कृपा करें कि बिना सी सी पी के माल कैसे आ गया ? बर्मा से इन की कौन सी एजेंसी है और कितना माल इन का आया ? लाखों रुपये का इस में घोटाला हुआ है ।

अन्त में मैं फिर निवेदन करूंगा कि जो हमने कई चीजों का ऊंचा इकाई मूल्य प्राप्त किया है फिर भी व्यापार संतुलन बिगड़ा है मैं फिर से अपनी प्रारंभिक बात पर आना चाहता हूं, हम ने ऊंचा ईकाई मूल्य निर्यात की चीजें भेज कर प्राप्त किया है उस के बाद भी हम को निरन्तर घाटा हुआ इस का कारण क्या है ? क्या हमारे घाटे का कारण दोष पूर्ण ।

लाइसेंस की पालिसी तो नहीं है ? क्या इस का यह कारण तो नहीं है कि हमारे अधिकारी जानबूझ कर इस के अन्दर उपेक्षा करते हैं ? मैंने एक प्रश्न दिया था तारांकित 7-3-75 प्रश्न संख्या 2727, उस के उत्तर में बताया गया है कि एम एम टी सी का बड़ा भारी स्टाक पड़ा हुआ है जिस में केमिकल्स भी हैं । जानबूझ कर जब मांग थी तब अधिकारियों ने केमिकल्स नहीं बेचे, बाद में स्टाक दिखाने का प्रयत्न किया जब कि मार्केट रेट उन का घट गया । मार्केट रेट घटा कर के बड़े बड़ लोगों को लाभ पहुचाने की दृष्टि से यह किया गया ।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि अभ्रक का निर्यात क्यों घटा है ? माइका का निर्यात घने का कारण क्या है ? दमाणी जी बार बार प्रश्न उठा रहे थे काटन कारपोरेशन के पास लार्ज स्टेपल काटन की गांठे पड़ी हुई हैं । मध्य प्रदेश के नीमाड़ के अन्दर गांठ पड़ी हुई हैं, महाराष्ट्र में पडी है । उन के पास पैसा नहीं है । बेचारे किसान परेशान हो रहे हैं । टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री सफर कर रही है । कपड़ा वहां पर पड़ा हुआ है । मशीनों का आधुनुकीकरण नहीं हो रहा है । कहो मशीने बन्द पडी हुई हैं । इस बारेमेंभी मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा । मंत्री महोदय को इन सारी बातों पर पुनर्विचार करना चाहिए और एक्सपोर्ट को प्रमुखता देनी चाहिए । इम्पोर्ट कम करने की कोशिश करनी चाहिए । लेकिन आप एक्सपोर्ट को प्रमुखता न दे कर एक्सपोर्ट ड्यूटी लगा रहे हैं । इस के कारण हम बाहर विदेशों में बाजार प्राप्त करने में असमर्थ हो रहे हैं। अकरत की चीजों के मास-प्रोडक्शन की बात भी हमारे यहां नहीं है । जो परम्परागत वस्तुएं है जिन का निर्यात होता रहा है उन के निर्यात की ओर हम अधिक ध्यान दें और आयात निर्यात के अन्दर एक संतुलन बना रहे तो जो हमारी एकोनामी में गिरावट आ गई है उस में सुधार आ सकता है । अत: आप अपनी नीति पर पुनर्विचार करें । इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आशा करता हूं कि मैं ने जो बाते कही है मंत्री महोदय उन का उत्तर देने की कृपा करेंगे ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Although when a knowledgeable member makes effective points it is the duty of the Chair in the interest of the debate to give him adequae opportunity, yet, I must repeat this ritual from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that the members of the Congress Party should not be given more than ten minutes each. It is my painful duty to do that.

The next speaker is Mr. N.K.P. Salve. I am sure he is full of beans in this matter. Even so, he must keep this in mind.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE (Betul) : I beg of you to be a little charitable to me. I am in your hands. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You must be full of beans in this matter; still you must keep this in mind.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : I am duty-bound to support the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Commerce, and I do so wholeheartedly. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Duty-bound !

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: I do so wholeheartedly.

This is an important Ministry because it is in charge of supervision and management of the international trade the exports of the country. That is one sphere which is exceedingly important, for, foreign exchange components or foreign exchange resources are an extremely important instrument in the economic renaisance of any developing country.

[Shri N. K. P. Salve]

Before I come to taking up some specific points, I must refer to the observations made by the learned member from the DMK, the astounding proposition that he had formulated...

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris) : Not DMK. He belongs to the CPI.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : That is still more astounding — that our international trade is going down the drains because we are trading with countries which work on the philosophy of free enterprise. I do not known whether there is any place for this sort of self-righteousness in international trade. We must trade with every country if it profits us. This is one field where one has to be absolutely hard-headed, obdurate, pragmatic and practical down to the bottom. This is one field where political hypocrisy and sanctimonious humbug has absolutely no place. I hope the Minister also will realise that any approach which is devoid of pragmatism, practical considerations and hard-headedness will never yield any results whatsoever in matters of export. In fact, there are golden rules of international trade and the highest rule which governs the cordiality between nations in the field of international trade is the rule of grabbing the highest profits within a code which may not be the highest. That is the hard reality in the realm of international trade.

The imperative need for our country to-day is to augment its exports quantitatively and thereby, amass a substantial amount of foreign exchange. This importance of exports can never be over-emphasized and in that context, if one were to see the commitments of foreign exchange, the current commitments as also the commitments to come in five years' time, the present performance cannot be considered by any standard very encouraging. We need to improve a whole lot. I have no doubt in my mind that with the two very able, very personable and handsome Ministers who are also dynamic, we will be able to do that...

SHRI B. V. NAIK : How is it relevant?

SHRI S. R. DAMANI : It is a fact.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : How are their physical features relevant?

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : In international trade, physical looks are also of very great importance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do you think they are exportable commodities!

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : I was coming to the question of the situation arising out of our dismal foreign exchange position. Already the balance of payments position is in the red to the extent of Rs. 585 crores for the period, April-December, 1974 and I think by now you must have known that it is not less than Rs. 800 crores. If this be the situation for the next few years, we are likely to be in a very difficult position because, as it is, our indebtedness in foreign exchange is not less than Rs. 7000 crores and it is likely to be in the vicinity of Rs. 10,000 crores by 1980 and the repayment required will be not less than Rs. 1000 crores annually. This Rs. 1000 crores we will need in foreign exchange over and above our requirements for imports of fertilisers, essential raw materials, defence requirements and capital goods. Over and above this, we should be able to afford clearly a sum of Rs. 1000 crores in foreign exchange to be able to meet our debt repayment commitments. Otherwise, for the first time ever in the history we are likely to become defaulters. It is from that angle we have to consider the responsibility of this Ministry and judge its performance make evaluation and assessment in a more realistic term.

The world exports to-day are in the vicinity of 710 billion dollars and in the 710 billion dollars our share is only 3.5 billion dollars which is a bare 0.5%. Once upon a time our share varied from anything between 3.5 to 4.5%. Now, it has declined to 0.5%. Therefore, if only in terms of value, because there are higher unit value realisations of exports we get complacent that our exports are

increasing, nothing can be more disastrous than this complacency about nations of increasing exports only in terms of value without a proper increase in terms of quantity. In fact, it is utterly necessary if we want to be anywhere near and close to being able to discharge the obligations requiring foreign exchange which will come on our heads very shortly to augment quantities of export. We must keep a target and achieve it and the target should be a minimal annual growth rate of 15% increase in our exports quantitatively. That is very important. The increase in value is not a proper criteria to judge export performance on which the whole report is harping. I regret the report does not make an evaluation of what our real share is in the international trade as such, in the world exports as such and how we are faring in relation to other countries. In this context it is absolutely necessary that the Government agencies and Government organisations which are incharge of export trade have to streamline their administration, they have to show a greater dynamism and more sincerety approach. Many items have been canalised but it has to be understood that canalisation is not merely for the sake of canalisation alone. We fully support canalisation and more and more items should be canalised. But canalisation is supported by people like me not merely for doctrinaire considerations, not merely because it caters to the concept of distributive justice, but also because, it is very highly desirable to check large-scale frauds of over-invoicing and under-invoicing and frauds involving items of with foreign exchange, etc. More than anything else, we want canalisation, for, if this is properly organised it can rid the entire exports from the scourge of undercutting which we find today.

But, I am sorry to say, the manner in which Government agencies in the field of export have been functioning is extremely dismal. These Government agencies which have been entrusted the task of export are not functioning like efficient business houses but they are functioning like bureaucratic wings of the Secretariat, incorrigible, slow, monolithic and in highly inefficient manner so far as the requirements of export trade are concerned.

They should have the approach of modern business houses. Their only criteria should be ruthless efficiency. But that is what is completely lacking today. The men who are manning some of these organisations are totally devoid of any imagination and dynamism, adaptability, proper expertise and so on. More than anything else, they lack involvement; that is to say, they are all people who are not committed, so to say to the philosophy of State Trading as such, they only want power for themselves.

There is a small matter which I, along with Mr. Sathe, had to take to the Commerce Minister and the issue involved was whether or not a particular item should be exported at a price which is highest if such price is negotiated by the Indian producers of exportable goods. The entire bureaucracy came up against me and Mr. Sathe, the negotiation must be sole prerogative of MMTC and they said, in the canalisation process, the entire power must vest with the Government organisation to finalise the sale to the exclusion of everyone else, even if unit realisation of export is less and it must be exported at the price negotiated by the MMTC. I have never heard anything more absurd than this. And to remedy this irrational thinking on this matter had to be taken up by Mr. Sathe and myself up to the Prime Minister.

Can there be anything more absurd than this, whether Price-A which is more than Price-B at which export had to be effected, had to be fought out because in terms of export-B, it is the bureaucrats who want absolute untrammelled authority? It is a question of their prestige. It is a question of their authority. It is a question of how they rule. It does not matter if they export at a price where unit realisation of export is less. They only want that their power must remain supreme. The country's interest will be taken care of by goods. This course will go from our public sector undertakings only when these bureaucrats are kicked out, lock, stock and barrel and if men from public life and business, who are dedicated to the ideals and philosophy of State Trading are taken at the top. Certain people may have to be trained for this purpose. After all, a bureaucrat can

[Shri N. K. P. Salve]

never be trained for running business houses because he is not brought up that way and they are the sort of people who should not unnecesarily be foisted on the business to put our exports in complete jeopardy.

There are certain instances and I want to mention some of these instances to show how dismal is the working of M.M.T.C. There was an instance of 700 tonnes sale of ferro-chrome which was manufactured by the Orissa Industrial Development Corporation—another public sector undertaking. This was sold by MMTC at 48 US-Cents per pound metal, when at that time, the prevailing market rate was 67.5 US-Cents per pound. And, when we raised this matter before the Minister, pat came the reply that the commercial quality was different and poorer from the other. It is for the Minister to institute an enquiry and to find out whether the ferro chrome manufactured by the Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa was properly sold at 48 per U.S. pound metal content when prices were much higher and as a result of which, the total loss suffered was Rs. 40 lakhs. This was entirely due to the incompetence, entirely due to the inadequacy of the knowledge of the people who are dealing with the sort of trade. If Rs. 40 lakhs is a loss of the Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa, they and the Government of India also loses foreign exchange, the country loses the foreign exchange, what does the incompetent official lose.

There is another point which I want to bring out. There is an American party at Pittsburg who purchased 1,000 tons of ferro silicon worth about Rs. 35 to 40 lakhs. Goods have been despatched. But, the party is refusing to take delivery because they find firstly that international prices have fallen and secondly because the goods are not upto specification. In the meanwhile, the manufacturers have taken the money against the Letter of Credit with the result that the liability of Rs. 35 to 40 lakhs is passed on to the M.M.T.C. These goods are either in the transit or at the port. One does not know what will happen to them. In the meanwhile prices have now come down to 50%. There is another case. High carbon ferro chrome of 1,000 tons were sold to a Spanish firm some time in September 1974 without checking the antecedents or their commercial standing of this party. At that time it was sold at few cents above the offer from other buyers of repute MMTC thought that they had achieved a hell of a bargain in selling this to the Spanish party. Since 19th September, this party refused to take delivery of even a single ton. This cost a lot of money because the prices have declined steeply in the meanwhile.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not go deep into it. I shall of course allow it. I am saying that we shall lose completely in the woods without seeing the forest.

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE : I won't go into it further. I am making a point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You will be seeing the wood and not the forest. Anyway you can go on.

SHRI N.K.P SALVE : My submission is this. I have drawn the attention of the Minister to these transactions only for one reason, that is, to point out that the set of people who are in charge of MMTC have no experience and they are not doing a thorough work of their job. There is something drastically wrong. Unless they are improved and unless the whole system is improved, how are we going to augment our exports? I am in a way happy that now this channelisation of the ferro alloys has been taken away from the M.M.T.C. and is now handed over to SAIL. I hope they have better knowledge as far as ferro-alloys are concerned. I shall now make a few suggestions and then I shall sit down. Firstly, the rules, procedures and regulations etc. have become so cumbersome that the entire facilities and incentives which you have given for exports are neutralised by the hardships caused by these rules, procedures and regulations etc. Kindly have a good look into these rules and procedures etc. which are causing a very great disincentive to the exporters. Secondly, you must think of giving more autonomy to the government agencies. For that structural changes are

required. Have people who are committed to your philosophy. But, then trust them and give them more autonomy so that everytime the ministry need not be bothered. Next, abolish the present time consuming procedures for the export licences. After preparing an exhaustive list of the banned items exports should be automatic, without requiring any licence. Fourthly give lavish facilities for advertisement, entertainment expenses to exporters etc.

I have seen in the international trade how the people advertise and how lavishly they entertain. Ours is the only country where legitimate entertainment expenses are not deductable even for the income-tax purpose. Look at the niggardly miserable foreign exchange that you give to exporters when they go abroad. Neither are foreign buyers fully entertained. It is a disgrace to this country. Do we expect these foreign buyers to come here for spiritual experience or do they come here for penance?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They come here for transcendental meditation!

SHRI N.K.P. SALVE: In fact some of our Gurus are good foreign exchange earners. If we can nationalise them, it would be a good idea. Be that as it may it is our duty to ensure that advertisements and entertainments are properly allowed and lavish foreign exchange given to genuine exporters. Then, Sir, the present export promotion efforts are extremely ineffective and inadequate. You have to appoint a supreme council for export promotion which must be vested powers of administrative decisions which should be binding on the Government.

Finally, we must open a market intelligence cell in the Ministry which would give them full reports of the market conditions abroad. If that is done then these cases of over-invoicing and under-invoicing and the large inventories of non-ferrous metals by MMTC will not come about. Sir, without the cell we cannot have value realisation per unit of export.

Lastly, Sir, I will only quote.

> "Dr. Bruno Hake, a West German authority on exports, expressed grave doubts about the utility of the duty-free export zone at Santa Cruz and similar projects in other parts of India. He said, "At Santa Cruz many factories are supposed to work to cater to a growing export market. But I hardly found one or two working. There are too many restrictions and too much emphasis on factories being small-scale and high technology oriented." Refering to the tremendous potential for such duty-free export zones, Dr. Hake further pointed out that if the restrictions and the red-tape could be removed, at least four million workers could be engaged in four such zones in India, one million in each zone."

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): Sir, in the entire report that we have received the most important thing that strikes me is the increase in exports which is being brought about continuously under the able leadership of our Minister.

Right from 1972-73, if we see, the export has increased from Rs. 1,970 crores to Rs. 2,343 crores. That is a creditable performance. But, as has been stated in the report itself, this is not a real reflection of growth because it is mainly in terms of value — particularly in the last year — and not so much in terms of quantity.

15 hrs.

I am constrained to note at page 7 of the report that while for the year 1962-63 when the balance of trade was favourable, that is, plus 103.4 crores constantly throughout these 10 years the balance has been unfavourable. Then in 1973-74 it was unfavourable to the tune of minus 437 crores, then, minus Rs. 164 crores and then minus Rs. 585 crores. We had to import large quantity of foodgrains; fertiliser cost went up and the cost of petroleum and other articles went up. These were the factors. But, I find from this report that the major area in which we have really made a big stride is in the field of textile fabrics, ready-made cloth and other products. Therefore, Sir, today, I would like to concentrate only on

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

this field. Unfortunately, Sir, we do not have a comprehensive textile policy. Neither in the sphere of jute, which is a great export earner, nor in the sphere of textiles, which is another potential and substantial export earner, do we have any comprehensive policy. Sir, the Cotton Corporation is under this Ministry. But, the NTC is under some other Ministry. The 103 sick textile mills which have been taken over are under a different Ministry.

The policy relating to the entire textile industry is under this Ministry. This Ministry has absolutely no control over the private sector apart from imposing conditions as to how much of controlled cloth should be produced and so on. The production of controlled cloth goes up from 400 sq. metres to 800 sq. meters and immediately, the mills start shouting 'Now, we cannot purchase long staple cotton because you want us to produce more medium variety and standard cloth, and therefore, there is no buyer'. Then, you decide that you should import Rs. 25 crores worth of medium staple cotton. I really do not understand Today, you have entered into an agreement — it has been reported — with the EEC and what they want is, more garments, shirtings and other materials. Now, why can't we have a policy where these mills would be compelled to produce finer varieties of cloth and ready-made garments? Have we got any control on that? Ready-made garments production has a tremendous employment potential. As you know, in America and other countries, one of the biggest industries is the garment industry. In this country, because of traditional wear of sarees and dhotis, the garment industry was not very much in vogue. But, the garment industry has a tremendous export potential. If we really give thought to it, we can have a net-work of de-centralised garment producing units in the form of cottage industries. You have the marketing with you and export these garments along with the fine cloth. Then, you can use this fine cloth internally instead of penalising the cotton grower for having grown 14 lakh bales of long staple cotton. Sir, I really pity this Government, particularly, this Ministry. It is not to blame. But, it is a part of the whole machinery. Why can't the entire textile industry — I am going to suggest it today — from cotton to garment ultimately, its export and internal consumption, be placed under the Commerce Ministry, under one Ministry? Let them be held accoutable for the entire production. Then, you cannot run away by saying 'What can I do? Cotton production is with the Agriculture Ministry'. You cannot run away by saying 'What can I do ; Textile production in the private sector is under some other Ministry'. Therefore, I am going to plead today that we should have some rational and comprehensive policy if you really want to earn more foreign exchange. You have no control on imports. Unfortunately, national calamities compel us to import food. I am not going into that question. Similar is the case of importation of petroleum products. But, you at least have control on what you can produce in this country and export.

Handloom varieties have the biggest market outside. Everywhere they are in demand. Handicrafts have the markets. Why cannot we concentrate on these items which have an employment potential as well as export earning potential?

In the field of handicrafts, I am glad there is now a greater awareness about encouraging our traditional crafts in this country because of their export potential, but enough is not being done in the field of training, in the field of marketing. The greatest handicap of the smaller people is marketing. They can produce the finest things, but they cannot market them and they are exploited by the middlemen. That is why in this sphere, a whole network of marketing also must be under your control. This you cannot do unless you have control both on internal market as well as the external market. If you say, 'I will deal only with the export market, but the internal market will be in somebody else's hand', no coordination is possible, whether it is textiles, handicrafts or any other. In regard to whatever you want to export, like tea,

for example, you must have control on both the internal marketing policy as also export.

Secondly, there has to be a rationale. I have nothing against bureaucrats. There are fine bureaucrats in this country. Some of them are excellent material thoroughbred horses. But do not use a thoroughbred horse for yoking to a tonga. Do not use him for the purpose of pulling a buggy. These people are good for administration, for which they were trained. But to use them in business and industry is a misuse of this fine material. It is a waste and is harmful both to industry and to administration. Therefore, let us think in terms of expertise. If they are experts in industry, all right, forget about the IAS cadre and let them go into the Industrial Management Pool. There has to be involvement. Accountability is the most important thing.

In the sphere of state trading, I have seen the work MMTC and others. I have myself been surprised; there are no norms, no parameters. There is nothing to compare. If you have a monopoly, how will you ever know whether you have sold a material at the best price in the world? When two private parties are competing, there is a possibility of knowing who is selling better. Here there is no way of knowing. They say: 'What can we do? The international markets fell'. Therefore, we are told: 'We had to sell at a less price'. You have to accept it. If there is a little margin of even 10 per cent, there is temptation. Human beings are the same everywhere. If you create conditions for temptation, they are bound to be tempted; but if you create conditions for competition and accountability, then I can understand it. Why don't you introduce an element of competition in this sphere also?

The first thing is: get people from wherever they are in the country, experts in the field of handling the job. Secondly, have an element of competition and get the best in the world. Judge them by accountability, by performance. No excuses heard, come only with results — this must be the criterion. If this is the test that we apply to our performance, I am sure our exports also will grow.

These are the two major points I wanted to make. I wish the Commerce Minister success because this is the only field in which we can earn the maximum foreign exchange. I do not know whether smuggling comes under him or not — I mean checking smuggling. In that sphere also something has to be done, because all the good things that he might try to do, such as export of our goods outside, etc. will be frustrated if smuggling is not stopped.

†SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris): Hon. Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, I rise to express my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Commerce.

I am glad to find from the Annual Report of the Commerce Ministry for the year 1974-75 that the target of tea production fixed for the year 1974, *i.e.* 478 million Kgs., will be achieved. In this year the foreign exchange earning through the export of tea is likely to be of the order of Rs. 100 crores.

But I am distressed to find what has been stated on page 109 of the Annual Report which reads as follows:

> "At the London auctions, prices of all teas increased by 16 new pence per kg. upto the end of November, 1974, while the prices for Indian teas increased by 14.00 new pence per kg."

I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Commerce why the increase in the prices of Indian teas has not kept pace with the increase in the prices of other teas. It is due to the fact that the quality of Indian tea has gone down in recent years? Or, is it due to any sluggishness on the part of the Tea Board or on the part of the Ministry of Commerce in the promotional activities to project the image of Indian tea? I would like to

† The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

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know what steps are being taken by the Government and the Tea Board in improving the quality of Indian tea and also in strengthening the promotional activities abroad, so that Indian tea can fetch attractive price in the foreign markets.

As I represent a tea-growing constituency, I know that the quality of tea goes down if the tea plant becomes 40 years old. I also know that the Government are implementing Tea Replantation Finance Scheme, Replantation Subsidy Scheme and Tea Machinery Hire Purchase Scheme. Let us see how much money has been spent by the Government under these schemes for augmenting tea production quantitatively and qualitatively, especially when tea exports earn every year foreign exchange worth Rs. 100 crores. Under the Replantation Subsidy Scheme, the amount disbursed since inception of the scheme in October, 1968 to 30th November, 1974 is Rs. 116.62 lakhs — in six years Rs. 116.62 lakhs, which means that a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs per year has been spent under the replantation subsidy scheme. At this rate, it may take another century for the Indian tea to get back its original quality. Similarly, for purchasing Tea Machinery and Irrigation Equipment the Government has disbursed to the Tea Industry Rs. 938 lakhs and Rs. 73 lakhs respectively since the inception of the Tea Machinery Hire Purchase Scheme.

As a representative of the small tea growers, I can say without any fear of contradiction that the maximum benefit from these schemes has been derived by the big plantation owners. The Ministry seems to be content in saying in the Annual Report that during the current period several other measures for the improvement of small grower estates in different regions has been taken.

Sir, in the Nilgiris district alone, which is my constituency, there are 20,000 small tea growers. You will not find anywhere in India such a concentration of small tea growers in one district, whether it is Kangra Valley or it is Assam. I am a founder-member of the Small Tea Growers Association in the Nilgiris. I have also founded the Industrial Co-operative Service Society in which all the small tea-growers are members. In the co-operative sector we are running 9 tea factories in the Nilgiris and we are taking up steps for putting up the tenth co-operative tea factory there. When Shri A. C. George was the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce, he visited my area and he was all praise for the successful co-operative movement in tea in the Nilgiris. He even went to the extent of saying that the other tea growing centres in the country should emulate the example of co-operative movement in the Nilgiris. So, the Government must give some credence to what I say about the woes of the small tea growers in the Nilgiris.

In my capacity as a Member of this House, I was a member of Tea Board in the meetings of which I had raised several times the problems of the small tea-growers. Even for the coming year I have been elected as a member of the Tea Board.

I would like to refer to the fact that a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs was sanctioned under the Replantation Subsidy Scheme for the small tea-growers. But it was strange that this sum was handed over to UPASI, the United Planters Association of South India, and they were directed to utilise this money for the welfare of small tea growers. Can you expect them to spend this money in the interest of the small tea growers? It is just like giving some money to Birlas or Tatas and asking them to spend that money in the interest of a small scale industry. I know for certain that not even a single pie out of this 5 lakhs of rupees was spent for the small tea growers in the Nilgiris. All this money was appropriated by UPASI.

In reply to a question on 18-4-1975, the hon. Deputy Minister of Commerce stated that promotional support to some Indian packet tea exporters, as the export of Indian packet tea was declining, was being given in collaboration with Tata Finlay, Brooke-Bond, Liptons etc., as if they were in need of such support from

the Government. I am only sorry that the same kind of concern is not being shown to the small tea growers.

Inspite of the fact that there is provision for the representation of small tea growers on the Tea Board, so far no representative of the small tea growers has been nominated on the Tea Board. One ex-army Officer — I do not know whose patronage he enjoys at the high governmental level — has been nominated to this place. I am unaware of his competence to represent the interests of the small tea growers. As I stated earlier, as a member of this House I have been elected to the Tea Board. Since I have been elected by 20000 small tea growers in the Nilgiris to this House, I vehemently plead the cause of the small tea growers in the Tea Board. I request the hon. Minister of Commerce that a real representative of the small tea growers in the Nilgiris should be nominated to the Tea Board and not an ex-army man who is not familiar with the problems of the small tea-growers.

Sir, as I stated earlier, all the small tea growers are members of the Industrial Co-operative Service Society. Hence the money sanctioned under the Replantation Subsidy Scheme should be routed through the Industrial Co-operative Service Society, and not through UPASI which caters only to big plantation owners.

Similarly, the loan applications forwarded by the Industrial Co-operative Service Society must be sanctioned by the Tea Board without delay. Here, I would like to refer to the inordinate delay of two years on the part of the Tea Board in sanctioning the loan for establishing Kattabettu Co-operative Tea Factory. This is the tenth co-operative tea factory which we want to set up. We have already collected a sum of Rs. 4 lakhs from the small tea growers for the purpose of establishing this factory. Yet, there is unconscionable delay in sanctioning the loan by the Tea Board. That is why I would like to stress that the loan applications forwarded by the Industrial Co-operative Service Society must be approved by the Tea Board without unnecessary delay.

Sir, the small tea growers in the Nilgiris are not able to go to the Tea Board in Calcutta or to come to Delhi to the Commerce Ministry for getting their genuine grievances redressed. I have been repeatedly requesting the Ministry and also the Tea Board that a Small Tea Growers Cell must be set up in the Nilgiris. If the Nilgiris does not find favour with the Tea Board, the Small Tea Growers Cell can conveniently be located in Coimbatore which is a central place both for Kerala and for the Nilgiris. With such a Small Tea Growers Cell in Coimbatore, most of the problems of the small tea growers in the Nilgiris will be solved expeditiously and effectively. I appeal to the hon. Minister of Commerce that he should direct the setting up of a Small Tea Growers Cell in Coimbatore in the interest of 20000 small tea growers in the Nilgiris.

15.25 hrs.

[SHRI VASANT SATHE *in the Chair*]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, for promotional activities abroad, you will find that only big plantation owners and highly placed officials go to foreign countries. It is regrettable that so far not even one small tea grower has been sent abroad either for witnessing the Tea Exhibition or for getting some training abroad. It will be beneficial to the small tea growers if some of them are sent abroad so that they can personally see how the tea is processed, packed and marketed. I hope that the hon. Minister of Commerce will bear this in mind and send a few small tea growers to foreign countries whenever a Tea Delegation is sent abroad.

I would refer to the first-ever Seminar of the All India Tea Plantation Owners Seminar held some two years ago in the Vithalbhai Patel House, New Delhi The hon. Minister of Commerce, Prof. Chattopadhyaya, and the Deputy Minister of Commerce, Shri A. C. George, participated in this Seminar. The hon. Minister of Commerce will agree with me if I say that in this 2-day Seminar none of the problems of the small tea growers was high-lighted, Neither the big plantation owners nor the Government through the

[Shri J. Matha Gowder]

Tea Board take adequate interst in the welfare of the small tea growers. I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister of Commerce that the genuine hardships of the small tea growers can be solved by establishing Small Tea Growers Cell of the Tea Board in Coimbatore, by giving representation on the Tea Board to the small tea-growers, by sanctioning loans, financial assistance etc. through the Industrial Co-operative Service Society on which all the small tea growers are members and not through bodies like UPASI, and by sending the representatives of small tea growers to countries abroad where Indian tea holds sway.

Lastly, I would like to point out that Sri Lanka Tea and the African Tea have overtaken Indian Tea in foreign market. You know, Sir, that Indian Tea was the first to reach the international market. Now it has come to a third position. The Government must make a thorough analysis of the reasons for the fall of Indian tea in the world market and take energetic and effective steps for re-capturing the glory of India tea abroad. The Government must replace the outdated machinery in the Tea Factories by modern machinery. In this International Women's year, the Tea Board must ensure that the women workers in the Tea Plantations get equal wages with men workers.

In conclusion, I would say that, since the 20000 small tea growers also contribute their might in the earning of foreign exchange, their problems must get adequate consideration in the hands of the Tea Board and the Government.

With these words, I conclude.

श्री राम सिंह भाई (इंदौर) : सभापति महोदय, इस अवसर पर मैं मंत्री महोदय को मुबारकबाद देता हूं कि इन पिछले वर्षों में कितनी कठिन परिस्थिति थी और ऐसी परिस्थिति के अन्दर हमारा निर्यात बढ़ा है । इसका मतलब एक ही है कि इस विभाग ने बड़ी ईमानदारी, मेहनत और सावधानी से कार्य किया है । दरअसल में यह बढ़िया विभाग है । इस विभाग में बहुत ही धैर्य की आवश्यकता है । जितना धैर्य होगा, जितनी सावधानी होगी उतना ही यह विभाग फायदा कर सकता है । इस वर्ष के आंकड़े देखते हुए हमें संतोष होता है और सब से बड़ी बात निर्यात की है । जहां तक आयात की बात है देश की परिस्थित ऐसी थी कि मजबूरी में हमें कुछ आयात ज्यादा करना ही पड़ा ।

लेकिन एक विषय के ऊपर में माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं । मेरे मित्र साल्वे जी और साठे जी ने जो बातें कहीं और अन्य सदस्यों ने भी कहीं, मैं वे बातें नहीं कहूंगा । मुझे एक विषय पर ही बोल लेने दीजिए जिस पर कोई नहीं बोला है और कोई और जिस पर बोलने वाला भी नहीं है । वह है आप का टेक्सटाइल विभाग है । इस टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री को सवा सौ साल होने को आए । लेकिन हम यह देखते आए है कि इसकी हालत हमेशा झोंले खाती रही है । आज की परिस्थितियों में यह कहा जाता है कि हमारे यहां उत्पादन बढ रहा है, यह उत्पादन बढ रहा है, वह उत्पादन बढ रहा है, लेकिन श्रीमन् मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि टेक्सटाइल इण्डस्ट्री का उत्पादन घटता जा रहा है, एम्पलायमेन्ट घटती जा रही है । आज टेक्सटाइल इण्डस्ट्री की हालत यह है कि अभी तो आपने 103 मीलों, को टेक ओवर कर राष्ट्रीयकरण किया है, लेकिन अब आपको 300 मिलों को टेक ओवर और करना होगा । 20 करोड रुपया इन 103 मिलों की तरफ श्रमिकों के प्राविन्डेड फण्ड का बकाया है, जिसमें से एक पाई भी अभी तक आपने नहीं चुकाई है, जब 300 मिलों का सवाल आयेगा, तब क्या स्थिति होगी, कितनी रकम हो जायगी ...

सभापति महोदय : राम सिंह भाई टेक्सटाइल मिलें जो भी गई थीं, वे इस मिनिस्ट्री के तहत नहीं हैं ।

श्री रामसिंह भाई : प्रोडक्शन से इन का सम्बन्ध है ।

सभापति महोदय : लेकिन वे मिलें इन के हाथ में नहीं है, वे पाई साहब की मिनिस्ट्री के हाथ में है ।

श्री रामसिंह भाई : 103 मिलें जो ली गई थीं, वे पाइ साब की मिनिस्ट्री के तेहत है, लेकिन मैं उनकी बात नहीं कह रहा हूं, मैं तो 300 मिलों की बात कह रहा हूं जिन को टेक ओवर करना पडेगा। टेक्सटाइल का सारा काम इन के ही मातहत है ।

श्रीमन, आज इन मिलों की हालत यह हो गई है, श्रमिकों, की छंटनी हो रही है, मशीनें बन्द हो रही है । अभी यहा बहुत कुछ कहा गया कि काटन पड़ा हुआ है, कोई खरीदनेवाला नही है, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ आज मिलें काटन के कारण बन्द पड़ी है । यह बडे दुख की बात है, इस पर आप को गंभीरता से सोचना चाहिये ।

अगर आप इन मिलों को प्रोडक्शन के प्वाइन्ट से देखे तो आप पायेंगे कि पर स्पिण्डल के हिसाब से आज 6 और 8 इंच की आप की लिफ्ट हो गई है, आधुनिक मशीनों से सुसज्जित है उनका पर स्पिण्डल प्रोडक्शन 6 औंस तक आ रहा है, लेकिन कुछ मिलें ऐसी है जहां प्रोडक्शन सिर्फ 3 औंस या साढेतीन औंस आ रहा है । जो मिलें 6 औंस का प्रोडक्शन ला रही हैं, उन के मुकाबले में ये कम प्रोडक्शन-वाली मिलें कैसे टिक सकेंगी । इस का मतलब है कि कुछ मिलों को तो जो चाहिये, वह मिल जाता है, लेकिन कुछ मिलों को आसानी से नहीं मिलता है । टेक्सटाल इण्डस्ट्री के पिछले 125 वर्षों में आप का टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर आफिस कुछ इन गिने मिल मालिकों के कब्जे में रहा है, जो अपना सब करा लेते है, बाकी मिल मालिक आज भी देखते है और हाथ हिलाते खड़े है ।

आप अपनी 103 मिलों की हालत को देखिये, जिन को आप ने टैक ओवर कर राष्ट्रीयकरण किया है । गवर्नमेंट की मिलें होने के बावजूद टैक्सटाइल कमिश्नर आज इनी गिनी दो चार मिले समूहों की मदद कर रहा है, बाकी की नहीं । इसी लिये मेरा कहना है कि आप इन को इन 300 मिलों को भी टेक ओवर करना पड़ेगा ।

एक तरफ आप कहते हैं कि काटन का ढेर लगा हुआ है, कोई खरीदनेवाला नहीं है । दूसरी तरफ कहा जाता है कि कपड़े का ढेर लगा हुआ है, कोई खरीदनेवाला नही है । किन्तु यह बहुत अच्छा अवसर आपके हाथ में आया है, इस से अच्छी स्थिति आप क्या चाहते है । लोगों को कपड़ा चाहिये, कपडे का ढेर लगा है, कारखानों को रुई चाहिये, रुई का ढेर लगा है । भाव गिरने चाहिये—भाव भी काफी गिरे है और इस के लिये हमें गवर्नमेंट को मुबारकबाद देनी चाहिये । पिछले साल 1974 में हम यहां चिल्ला रहे थे कि भाव बढ रहे है, लेकिन अब 1975 में भाव गिर रहे है—यह बहुत अच्छी निशानी है । लेकिन मै निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि इस में भी धैर्य की जरूरता है, घबराने की जरूरत नही है, अब आप में हिम्मत होनी चाहिये, साहस होना चाहिए । एग्रीकल्चर प्राइस कमीशन ने जो रुई के भाव तय किये है, उस के हिसाब से गवर्नमेंट को रुई खरीद लेनी चाहिये । कही ऐसा न हो कि आप का काटन कारपोरेशन देखता रह जाय, आप के उत्पादन के आंकड़े धरे रह जायं और ये पूंजीपती लोग सब उठा ले जायं । आज ब्लैक का धन मार्केट से गायब हो गया है, वह कोई आर्थिक क्राइसिज नहीं है । आज जितनी टैक्सटाइल में आर्थिक तंगी है, वैसी ही दूसरी इण्डस्ट्रीज में भी है, क्यों कि पहले ब्लैक मनी ज्यादा सैल्ती थी, उस से लोग

[श्री राम सिंह भाई]

खरीदते, जमा करके रखते थे कच्चा माल खरीद कर भण्डार भर लेते थे और तैयार माल भी खरीद कर जमा कर लेते थे। वा में महंगी दामों पर बेचते थे। जब से सरकार ने ब्लैक मनी पर दबाव डालना शुरु किया, जांच करना शुरु किया, वह ब्लैक मनी बाजार से गायब कर दी गयी है। ऐसे मोके पर सरकार अगर कच्चे माल का तथा तैयार माल का स्टाक खरीद कर जमा कर ले तो आपके भावों का बैजेस लें बनाये रखने और भावो के सबंध में सब कुछ गवर्नमेंट के हाथ मे रहेगा। आप लम्बे रेशे की रूई को हो लिजिये—पिछले साल सितम्बर में इस का भाव 6000 रुपये से अधिक था, लेकिन दिसम्बर के अन्त में 3000 रुपये हो गया और आज कोई खरीदनेवाला नहीं है। अगर इस रूई को आप की कारपोरेशन ने नही खरीदा तो ये जमाखोर पूंजीपति इस को भर कर रख लेंगे और बाद में यही रूई 6000 रुपये में बिकेगी। इस लिय मेरा कहना है कि थोड़ी हिम्मत कीजिये, साहस कीजिये। 200 या 250 करोड़ रुपये का काटन तो आप की 103 मोलों को चाहिये और यदि हिन्दुस्तान की सब मिलो का हिसाब लगा ये तो 1200 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा के काटन की जरूरत पड़ेगी। ये आंकड़े मेरे अपने आंकड़े हैं अंदाजी, आप की तरफ़ से मुझे आंकड़े नहीं मिले हैं - इसे लिये आप काटन को अपने हाथ में लीजिये।

अभी यहां पर कन्ट्रोल्ड क्लाथ का जिक्र किया गया। यह बड़ी शर्म की बात है कि क्या यह कन्ट्रोल क्लाथ है, किस के लिये बनाया जा रहा है - यह सोचने की बात है ...

श्री हुकूम चन्द कछवाय (मुरैना) : जानवरो के लिये है।

श्री राम सिंह भाई : जानवरों के लिये नहीं, इन्सानों के लिये हैं, लेकिन दृष्टिकोण जानवरों का है। जानवर कपड़ा नहीं पहनता है, अगर हम भी जानवर की तरह से कपड़ा न पहनें, तो फिर कपड़े की जरूरत ही नहीं है। समस्या अपने आप हल हो जायेंगी। हमारे कोर्स कपड़े के उत्पादन का प्रतिशत घट रहा है, मीडियम की का भी प्रतिशत उत्पादन घट रहा है, उस की परसेन्टेज कम होती जा रही है मीडियम ए वैसे का वैसा ही बना हुआ है, क्योंकि आप उस को एक्सपोर्ट करते है और देश मे आवश्यकता है। फाइन और सुपर फाइन का परसन्टेज बढ़ा रहा है। किन्तु कन्ट्रोल्ड क्लाथ में क्या हो रहा है-आप जरा उस कपड़े को देखिये - मैं मशीन चलाना जानता हू, कपड़ा बुन कर बतला सकता हूं और मिल भी चालू कर के बतला सकता हूं – कन्ट्रोल्ड क्लाथ मे 6 कैटेगरीज आपने रखी हैं, 6 ग्रुप्स हैं। आज जो लोंग-क्लाथ बन रहा है उस में क्या हो रहा है उस के काउन्ट को देखिये – 9 का वाप है और 12 का वैफ्ट है – एक तरह से टेन्ट क्लाथ बन रहा है। मन्त्री जी तो धोती पहनते हैं किन्तु कन्ट्रोल पर धोती नहीं मिलेंगी, साडी, शर्टिंग और ड्रिल नही मिलेगी, लेकिन लाग क्लाथ का ढेर लगा हुआ है। अगर कपड़े की बनावट देखें तो शर्टिंग मे न० 21का वापे है और न० 27 का वैफ्ट है – शर्टिंग के अन्दर रीड डाला है 64 का, पिक डाली है 44 का – यह जरा सोचने की बात है – इस तरह से झिराझिरा कपड़ा बनेगा। मेरे हिसाब से 60 का पिक होना चाहिये, एक इच मे 60 तार बुनने के होने चाहिये।

यहां मैं कंट्रोल क्लाथ की बात कर रहा हू कि कितना हल्का बनाया जा रहा है। एक जाति की बात कर रहा हूं कि जहां 64 का रीड है और 48 पीक है उस की जगह 60 डालना चाहिये था। आप ने क्या कपड़ा बनाया है उसेही मैं बताना चाहता हूं, मैं लोंग क्लाथ की बात कर रहा हूं जो एक मिल ने बनाया है जिस का मरचेंट नम्बर 109 है और कैटेगरी है मीडियम 'बी' और उस का पना है 99 सेंटीमीटर, उस का भाव है 1.74 पैसे प्रति मीटर। इस भाव में एक मीटर अच्छा कागज भी नहीं आता। आप ने हल्के में हल्का कपड़ा बूना होगा, कम सूत लगाया होगा, खराब में खराब सूत लगाया

होगा । इसी तरह एक मरचेंट नम्बर है 1764, वह मीडियम 'बी' है और उस का पना है 79 सेंटीमीटर । लेकिन एक मीटर का भाव है 1.16 पसे । इसी प्रकार से एक कपड़ा दूसरी बिल का है जिस का मरचेंट नम्बर है 1602, केटगरी मीडियम 'बी' और उस का पना है 32 इंची और भाव है 2 रु० 5 पैसे । दोनों ही कंट्रोल क्लाथ हैं - जिस का पना है 79 सेंमीटर उस का भाव है 1.16 पैसे और जो 32 इंची पने का है वही लोंग क्लाथ, उस का भाव है 2 रु० 5 पैसे । एसा क्यों ? क्यों कि वह एक ऐसे कारखाने का है जिस का असर टेक्सटाइल कमिश्नर पर है, और कमिश्नर उस की जब मे है । और एक लोंग क्लाथ ऐसी मिल का है जिस को कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है । बन्द होने पर मजदूरों ने एक सप्ताह तक श्रमदान में झाड़ू लगा कर मिल साफ की, अपना प्रोवीडंट फंड कटाकर महंगाई भत्ता कम कर कर के उस कारखाने को चलाया है । वही काउन्ट, वही रीड और वही पीक और पने में लेकिन उस का भाव बहुत कम है और जिस का पना कम है उस का भाव ज्यादा है । आज कल 32 इंची पने में पगड़ी ही बनेगी और पगड़ी का जमाना नहीं । इसलिये कंट्रोल क्लाथ ढेरों पड़ा हुआ है । मेरे पास इतनी जाती के भाव हैं किन्तु समय की कमी से नहीं बता सकता । आपने बेचने का माध्यम भी क्या रखा है, साड़ियों और धोतियों का परसेंटेज क्या है ? कुछ नहीं है । आज जो लोंग कंट्रोल क्लाथ मिल रहा है उस को लोग कफ़न के लिये भी नहीं खरीद रहे हैं । आप को विचार करना होगा कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा परसेंटेज साड़ियो, धोतियों और शर्टिंग का होना चाहिये । जो कंट्रोल क्लाथ में परसेंटेज कोर्स, मीडियम 'बी' और 'ए' का है फाइन, सुपर फाइन आप ने क्यों नही रखा 80 करोड़ मीटर का कंट्रोल क्लाथ रखा है । 80 करोड़ मीटर में सूत के काउन्ट का भी प्रतिशत वही होना चाहिये जो टोटल उत्पादन में है । परसेंटेज के हिसाब से आप फ़ाइन और सुपर फ़ाइन क्यों नहीं कंट्रोल क्लाथ में देते । मंत्री महोदय जो धोती पहने हैं उस को अगर टेबिल पर रखें तो मैं बता दूंगा कि इस का काउन्ट क्या है और फिर कंट्रोल क्लाथ से मिलाकर देखा जाय कि उस में और इसमें कितना फ़र्क है ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : यह कहना कि धोती टेबिल पर रखें, यह आपत्तिजनक है ।

सभापति महोदय : उन्होंने अभी रखने के लिये नहीं कहा ।

श्री राम सिंह भाई : आज 72 से 80 इंच पने की मशीनें कारखानों में चल रही हैं, लेकिन कंट्रोल क्लाथ बनता है 40 इंच पर और उस से भी कम पने की मशीनों पर । कंट्रोल क्लाथ कैलिको, अरविन्द, सेंचूरी या फिनले मिल्स नहीं बनाते बल्कि इन 103 मिलों में बनता है जिन को सरकार ने समझ लिया है कि इन्ही में यह कबाड़ा चलने दो । आप इस के बारे में विचार कीजिये । सरकार अगर मुझ से बात करेगी, सलाह लेना चाहेगी, तो मैं, टेक्सटाइल के बारे में अपनी सलाह दे सकता हूं । इस पर आप विचार करें ।

सभापति महोदय : भरी मिलें और कफ़न का कपड़ा ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (मूरैना) : सभापति महोदय, विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय की जो मांगें हमारे सामने हैं उन के बारे में कुछ मुझे निवेदन करना है । विभाग की रिपोर्ट में देखने को मिला है कि पिछली बार काफ़ी घाटा हुआ है और इस बार भी उतना ही या उस से अधिक घाटा होने की सम्भावना है । घाटे के अलग-अलग कारण हैं । कुछ तो सरकार की लाइसेंस नीति में त्रुटियां हैं और उस में बहुत अधिक परिवर्तन की आवश्यकता है । यदि परिवर्तन किया गया तो ऐसा हमें विश्वास है कि इस घाटे को हम पूरा कर लेंगे और मुनाफा भी कर सकते हैं । पिछले कुछ दिनों से ऐसी त्रुटियां रही हैं जिन के बारे में मेरे दल के सदस्यों ने जिक्र किया है, मैं उन्हीं कुछ विशेष बातों का उल्लेख करना चाहता हूं । पिछली बार हम ने बांगला देश से कागज मंगाया 1800 रु० टन तक और उसे घाटे में बेचा, 200, 300

[श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय]

रु० प्रति टन घाटा उठाना पड़ा । हम को पता लगाना चाहिये कि इस के कारण क्या ह और इतना घाटा क्यों हुआ ।

हमारे द्वारा आस्ट्रलिया को ऊन भेजी गई; लेकिन आस्ट्रेलिया ने हम को ब्लैक लिस्ट में रखा है। यह एक बहुत बड़ा मारल के लिए कलंक है, इस की जांच होनी चाहिये कि आखिर दोषी कौन है । कारण क्या है । आज दुनिया के मार्केट मे हम ने अच्छी ख्याति प्राप्त की है, लेकिन आस्ट्रेलिया में हमें ब्लैक लिस्ट मे रखा जाय इस से बड़ा कलक हमारे लिये और क्या हो सकता है । इस बारे में जो भी दोषी हो उस को निकाल कर सामने रखा जाय और उचित दड दिया जाय । और भविष्य मे इस प्रकार की गलती न हो, इस का ध्यान रखा जाय ।

कंट्रोल के कपड़े के सम्बन्ध में अभी माननीय सदस्य ने कहा । लेकिन यह बात निश्चित है कि बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर आज स्टाक मे कपड़ा पड़ा हुआ है, करीब 70 करोड़ का कपड़ा स्टाक मे पड़ा हुआ है । मेरा भी टेक्सटाइल मिलो से निकट का सम्बन्ध है, वह इतने घटिया किस्म का कपड़ा बनाती है कि उस को देखने मे घृणा होती है । उसे कौन पहनेगा ? इसी के साथ साथ-आप ने सुधार की बात भी कही है । आप ने 11-4-74 को एक प्रश्न के उत्तर मे कहा है कि हम इस पर विचार कर रहे हैं, और एक टेक्सटाइल बोर्ड 17 एप्रिल को बैठने वाला है । मैं जानना चाहता हू कि वह बोर्ड है कि नहीं, और उसने इस बारे मे विचार किया है या नही ? यदि विचार किया है, तो क्या विचार किया है ? अभी कुछ दिन पहले मै ने प्रश्न पूछा था पावर लूम वाले जो पहले 10 रु० ड्यूटी देते थे उस को बढ़ा कर सरकार ने 200 रु० कर दिया है जिस से पावर लूम वालों को काफ़ी दिक्कत हो रही है । आप ने कहा कि छोटे उद्योग के लोगों के बारे में विचार कर रहे हैं कि 4 से 10 लम तक जिनके पास हैं उन पर ड्यूटी नहीं लगायेंगे और उस से ऊपर वालों पर लगायेंगे । सरकार से मेरी मांग है कि 6 या 10 लूम से अधिक जिसके पास पावर लूम है उसी पर ड्यूटी लगाई जाय । । आज हैंडलूम के लोगों को सूत पर्याप्त मात्रा में नहीं मिलता है और वह उद्योग बड़े संकट मे है जिस की वजह से छोट-छोटे गरीब लोग अपना जीवन बड़ी मुश्किल से काट रहे हैं । लेकिन बिचौलिये लोग बड़े पैमाने पर उन का शोषण करते हैं और उधारी पर सूत दे कर उन से सस्ता माल खरीदते है । इस तरह उनका माल देने तथा खरीदने मे दोनों तरह से शोषण किया जाता है । इस पर आप ध्यान रखें और पूरी तरह से उचित मूल्य पर उन को कच्चा सूत मिले इस का विशेष ध्यान रखें ।

ज्यूट के निर्यात मे हमने एक करोड़ 74 लाख रुपये का घाटा उठाया है । घाटा क्यो हुआ है इसका पता लगाया जाना चाहिये और यह भी पता लगाया जाना चाहिये कि कौन दोषी है । मैं मानता हू कि ज्यूट का बड़ा कम्पीटीशन है । लेकिन बंगला देश ज्यूट के निर्यात से अच्छा पैसा कमा रहा है, मुनाफा कर रहा है तो क्या कारण है कि हमको घाटा हुआ है । ज्यूट के अलावा खनिज लौह, चमड़ा आदि चीजो के निर्यात मे भी काफी कमी हुई है । आपने कुछ ड्यूटीज लगाई हैं । लेकिन आपको देखना चाहिये कि लोग अधिक से अधिक माल बाहर भेजे ताकि हमे विदेशी मुद्रा प्राप्त हो । इसकी उनको छूट होनी चाहिये और इसके लिए उनको अधिक से अधिक प्रोत्साहन दिया जाना चाहिये । जो ड्यूटी आपने लगाई है इसको आप हटाए । इससे कोई लाभ नही होगा । काफी इन चीजों का हमारे पास स्टाक जमा हो गया है । इस ड्यूटी की वजह से लोग इन चीजो को बाहर भेज नही पा रह है । इसको आप हटा दे तो अच्छा होगा और अधिक मात्रा में लोग इन चीजो का निर्यात कर सकेंगे ।

लघु उद्योग निगम के पास भी लाखों रुपये की मशीनें पड़ी है जिन का कोई उपयोग नहीं हो रहा है । व बेकार पड़ी है । उतनी ही मशीनें आप मंगाए या बनाए जितनी की खपत हो सके । ओखला में दांत बनाने के काम आने वाली मशीनें बड़ी संख्या में पड़ी हुई है । मैं चाहता हूं कि इस

पर भी आप विचार करें । मशीनें अगर पड़ी रहती है तो वे खराब हो जाती है । साथ ही उन में रुपया फस जाता है । इस वास्ते इस का भी आप ध्यान रखें ।

चाय की बहुत चर्चा हुई है । चाय उद्योग हमारे देश का एक बहुत बड़ा उद्योग है । चाय हम काफी बड़ी मात्रा में विदेशों को निर्यात भी करते हैं । हमारी चाय दुनिया के अनेक देशों में प्रसिद्ध भी है । एक सवाल मैंने पूछा था जिससे यह जानकारी मिली थी कि भारतीय चाय जो विदेशों को भेजी जाती है उसके अन्दर घटिया चाय मिला कर उसको बेच दिया जाता है और भारत की यह चाय है, इस नाम से उसको वहां बेचा जाता था । इससे हमारी साख गिरती है और हमारे बारे में दुनिया के लोगों के दिलों में अच्छी धारणा नहीं बनती है । मैं चाहता हूं कि जिन देशों को आप चाय भेजें उन के साथ आप करार करें कि हमारी चाय को उनको शुद्ध बेचना होगा, उस में किसी प्रकार की मिलावट नहीं करनी होगी, उसके पैकेटों में किसी प्रकार का मिक्सचर नहीं किया जाएगा । वहां कोई मिलावट उस में न हो इसकी भी चौकसी की जानी चाहिये । ऐसा न होने से हमारा नाम दुनिया के बाजार में खराब होता है । हमने कई देशों में टी बोर्ड की शाखायें खोली हुई हैं, टी स्टाल खोले हुए हैं जहां भारत की चाय बना कर लोगों को हम पिलाते हैं । हमारी चाय वहां बहुत पसन्द की जाती है, उसके प्रति बड़ा आकर्षण है । इस काम के लिए हम लाखों रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं विभिन्न देशों में । जो प्रचार हम वहां चाय का कर रहे हैं वह ठीक प्रकार से नहीं होता है। मिक्सचर बना करके वहां चाय भेजी या बेची जाती है । बड़े होटल जो वहां हैं उन में भारत की चाय के प्रति साख गिरती जा रही है । मैं चाहता हूं कि इस स्थिति को आप सुधारें और ऐसे उपाय करें कि हमारी चाय के प्रति वहां लोगों का आकर्षण बना रहे तथा बढ़े और जिज्ञासा पैदा हो उनके दिल में । उनको पता लगना चाहिये कि यह बहुत अच्छी चाय है । घटिया किस्म की चाय की बिक्री बन्द होनी चाहिये ।

मेरे मित्र पांडे जी ने एक लाइसेंस की बात उठाई जो इंदौर में किसी को दिया गया था । यह एक बहुत बड़ा घोटाला है । यह जो लाइसेंस है इसका माल दवा बनाने के काम में लाया करके कलकत्ता के बाजारों में बेचा गया है, कुछ पदार्थ है जिस को बम बनाने के काम में लाया गया है । इस में कुछ इस प्रकार की धातु है जो बम बनाने के काम में आती है । बड़ी मात्रा में यह कलकत्ता के बाजार में चोरी बिका है । इसकी जांच भी हुई है और रिपोर्ट भी आई है । इस तरह के जो लाइसेंस दिए जा रहे हैं इन पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाना चाहिये और गलत तरीके से जो ये दिए गए है इसके लिए कौन दोषी है इसका पता लगाया जाना चाहिये और उसको दंड दिया जाना चाहिये ।

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I proceed to speak on the Demands, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Commerce Minister to the remarks made by the President of the European Economic Market Committee who is present in Delhi. While speaking about India's position in the European Economic Committee he said that in case the referendum in Britain is in favour of going out of EEC India whose trade is linked with U.K., will not be in an advantageous position.

So, I would like to ask the Minister whether he is prepared for a contingency of this sort and if that is so, what are the measures that he is going to undertake for an alternative arrangement.

Sir, coming to the report of the Commerce Ministry, we have got an adverse trade balance of Rs. 585 crores and the Commerce Minister has indicated that this adverse balance is due to rise in import bill of foodgrains, fertilisers, oil and petroleum products. It has also been stated that increase in our export largely depends upon the way in which we increase our agricultural production in this country which is the basic raw-material and which gives us a fair position in the matter of exports. He has mentioned about two important items cotton and oilseeds.

[Shri P. Venkatasubhiah]

I will first take up cotton and that too long staple cotton. The table shows that there has been steady decrease in our imports of cotton because of increase in our internal production of long staple cotton.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while you were speaking on this subject you referred to the inadequacy of evolving a proper cotton textile policy. We were in short supply of long staple cotton and now it has come to medium staple cotton. The Agriculture Department and the other agencies of the Government of India encouraged the farmers to go in for long-staple cotton and the production of nigh-breed cotton variety—according to the figures given—in 1974-75 has gone up by 6.97 lakh hectares and the cotton production has gone up to 65 lakh bales of cotton as against 62 lakh bales of cotton last year. What is the position now? There does not seem to be any proper coordination between the various administrative wings of our Government. The farmer is engaged today in a nation-building activity and making this country self-sufficient not only in foodgrains but also in other commodities like cotton.

16 hrs.

In Andhra Pradesh alone 4 lakh of acres have been brought under cotton cultivation and nearly 10 lakh bales of cotton have been produced and 350 processing units have come up in that area involving industrial labour to the tune of 20,000 people. Suddenly, there is no buyer for this cotton. Cotton is lying with the farmers. They have made huge investment in the form of inputs by taking loans at high rate of interest. Now, they are facing economic crisis.

Unfortunately, even the soft-spoken mild-mannered Commerce Minister did not sympathise with them, inspite of repeated representations. They are not asking for any charity. They want a remunerative and a reasonable price for their produce, which they have produced with their sweat and toil. This distortion will raise all sorts of complications and consequences for which the nation has to suffer. If we do not pay a reasonable and a remunerative price this year, the farmer is not going to produce cotton next year. We will again face that contingency of importing long staple cotton in larger quantities paying hard earned foreign currency. Perhaps, the Commerce Ministry is not able to convince the Agriculture Ministry or the Finance Ministry. But, one silver lining in the whole thing is that the Agriculture Minister has said that we will export cotton. I do not know when that day is going to dawn, and how many administrative and bureaucratic obstacles will be placed. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not going to come. Mill-owners are opposed to that.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: . . . the farmers would have started distress sales by the time the Government agrees for export, it would have gone into the hands of the middlemen. The farmer will suffer ultimately. Sir, this is the greatest dis-service Government of India have done to the farmers and they have penalised him for committing the sin of making this country self-sufficient in cotton.

Take the case of Cotton Corporation of India. My friend Mr. Damani, has very characteristically described the functions of the Cotton Corporation of India, their establishment, their purchases and the surplus stock that are available with them. The Cotton Corporation of India have opened a buying centre in my Constituency, Nandyal, also. I wrote a letter to the Minister and the Managing Director of the Cotton Corporation of India asking them to purchase whatever quantity of cotton is offered by the farmers. They were doing it on a selective basis. After some time, they obliged them and they said: We will purchase it, but, we will pay only 50% and the rest will be paid in six months. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: On 6% interest.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: On 6% interest by a post-dated cheque. Again, they have said—only yesterday, I got a letter from the hon. Minister—that they are now prepared to make the full payment. They are not giving a charity to the farmers I want to make it clear to the hon. Commerce Minister that if he has got any impression that it is only some big people who are producing cotton, that it is the lobby of certain big vested interests, I want to dis-abuse him of that impression. May be, here and there, there may be some black sheep who want to make commercial use of this whole proposition But, by and large, thousand of families are involved in this. It is purely a case of giving a remunerative and a proper price to the farmer, to the marginal and small farmers. It is going to affect the rural economy. Nearly, Rs. 100 crores have been sunk in Andhra Pradesh alone for cultivation expenses. The farmer normally expects that at least he should get this Rs. 100 crores. But, if you look into the actual position, it is not even Rs. 100 crores that the farmer is getting back. This is the state of affairs and if the hon. Minister expects that our exports will go up, that our export position will improve, I do not think, with this kind of attitude, there is any scope for any export promotion in this country.

Now, I come to oilseeds. They want to produce 55 million tonnes of oilseeds. They want to raise the target this year, and 85% of the cropped area is rain-fed. But, no attempt has been made to evolve a method, a dry farming method, of having drought-resistant oilseeds, to improve the productivity and quantum of production of oilseeds.

You just have a sort of pious revolution that our oilseeds production will go up. This is living in a fool's paradise. Of course, this green revolution has helped to a great extent. At the same time, it has created a sort of great disparity. Even today only 10 or 15 per cent of the cultivated land is under irrigation; this rest are rain-fed. Commercial crops are the only crops which have a vast export potential. We have not done anything in that direction.

So also there are many items which require a boost, a sort of right investment from Government In regard to foodgrains, also, we are in the same position. We did not encourage farmers. We did not pay them a remunerative price to the rice he produced. We are not paying the proper price to them Therefore, many of these people are changing over from rice to commercial crops. This sort of distortion exists.

I do not blame the Commerce Ministry alone. There should be a more coordinated, comprehensive policy attuned to agricultural production. Then only the Commerce Minister can expect to see our exports going up. We are having friendly relations with the East-European countries and also the USSR. Our balance of trade with them is becoming more favourable. We have the same sort of relations with West Germany and other countries. As Shri Salve has pertinently pointed out, there cannot be ideological inhibitions with regard to our trade relations. Our main interest should be how far and to what extent we will be able to go ahead with export promotion in the country.

Lastly, there is a vast potential for mango export. We must look into that matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: At least let there be one fruit for the common man.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: There are many items in the country which do not now come within the Commerce Ministry. If they could be exported to our advantage, they will be excellent exchange-earners.

At least now he should announce a retention price for MC 5 cotton of Rs. 4.50, so that the farmer will be confident that he will get that price if he produces that type of cotton.

श्री राम हेड़ाऊ (रामटेक): सभापति जी, हमारा देश एक कलाकारों का देश है। पिछले इतिहास को देखा जाय तो यहां की ढाके की मलमल दुनिया में प्रसिद्ध थी और दुनिया में उसका बड़ा अच्छा मार्केट था। उस वक्त हमने देखा कि, अंग्रेजों ने ढाके की मलमल बनाने वाले बुनकरों के हाथ और उंगलियां काट डाली थीं। उसका उद्देश्य यह था कि इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में ढाके की मलमल आगे न बढ़े और यहां के लोगों का विकास न हो।

हम आज देखते हैं कि हमारे देश में इन कारीगरों की संख्या, जो हाथ करघों पर बुनने वाले हैं, काफी है यानी 30 लाख हाथ करघे हैं। यह हाथ करघे इस स्थिति में है कि धीरे धीरे यह उद्योग हमारे देश से पूरा खत्म हो जायेगा। यही इस प्रकार की सरकार की नीति रही। हाथ करघे को जो संरक्षण देना चाहिये था वह नहीं दिया गया। आज तक इस उद्योग की दृष्टि से जो भी रिपोर्ट तैयार हुई हैं वह चाहे सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की हों या प्राविन्शियल गवर्नमेंट की हों, लेकिन उन रिपोर्टों पर कोई अमल नहीं हुआ। अशोक मेहता कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई लेकिन उस पर अमल नहीं हुआ। आज स्थिति यह हो गई है कि यंत्र करघा वर्सेस हाथ करघा। यह स्पष्ट है कि बिजली करघों के सामने हाथ करघे सरकार की सहायता बिना जीवित नहीं रह सकते।

हाथ करघों पर बुनने वाले बुनकरों को बिजली करघा सरकार दे भी नहीं सकते। आपकी वह स्थिति नहीं है क्योंकि बिजली करघे को कम-से-कम 20 हजार की लागत लगती है और हाथ करघे को लगने वाली लागत बहुत कम होती है। उसको समय-समय पर जो बड़े पैमाने पर ताना दिया जाता है मिलों के जरिये, इन सब स्थितियों को अगर हम देखें तो इस देश के करीब करीब 30 लाख हाथ करघों का परिवर्तन आप बिजली करघों में नहीं कर सकते। यह होने के बावजूद भी हम भी हाथ करघे की उपेक्षा कर रहे हैं।

इस देश में हाथ करघा ऐसा उद्योग है जिसमें सिर्फ 500 रुपये की लागत से 7-8 आदमियों की एक फैमिली ठीक ढंग से जीविका कर सकती है। हाथ करघे से जो माल प्रोड्यूस होता है उसके लिये दूसरे देशों में भी बड़ा मार्केट है, बहुत डिमांड है। लेकिन इसके बावजूद भी हाथ करघे बन्द हो रहे हैं। उसकी इतनी उपेक्षा की जा रही है कि यह स्वतंत्रता में शोभा नहीं देता।

शिवरमन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई। उस की रिपोर्ट को अमल में कब लाया जायेगा? मुझे विश्वास नहीं है कि शिवरामन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट को अमल में लाया जायेगा। क्यों कि जैसे ही शिवरमन कमेटी ने हथकरघा को प्रोटेक्शन देने के बारे में थोड़ी सी बातें कहीं उधर हम ने यह देखा कि यंत्र करघा वालों की लाबी उस के विरोध में चिल्लाने लगी। वह कहने लगे कि बिजली करघे पर 200 रुपये कर लगा दिया है, बिजली करघा मर जायेगा। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं देश का उत्थान कब होता है? जब मेहनत करने वाला जो निम्न स्थिति का आदमी होता है, जो आर्थिक दृष्टि से कमजोर होता है लेकिन मेहनत कर के जीविका चलाता है, उस आदमी का डेवलपमेंट होगा तब देश का डेवलपमेंट होगा। लेकिन आज उधर बुनकर मर रहा है, उस को भूत नहीं मिल रहा है, इधर कल्टीवेटर मर रहा है। वास्तव में कपास और कपड़े का चोली दामन का साथ है। आज कपास की स्थिति आप ने क्या कर डाली है? महाराष्ट्र में यह स्थिति आप ने ला दी है कि इस वर्ष कपास बोने वाला कल्टीवेटर कपास बोने की हिम्मत नहीं करेगा। इतनी मुश्किल में आप ने उस को डाल दिया है। आज महाराष्ट्र में कपास पर सरकार का मोनोपली कंट्रोल है। मुझे यह आप से कहना है कि यदि महाराष्ट्र सरकार के पास पैसे नहीं थे इस स्कीम को चलाने के लिए तो क्यों उन पर वे स्कीमें लादी गई? क्या सेंटर ने लादीं?

कोआपरेशन का बड़ा बोलबाला महाराष्ट्र में बताया जाता है। लेकिन यह सहकार महाराष्ट्र में भ्रष्टाचार का एक बड़ा भारी अड्डा बन गया

है। आज कल्टीवेटर को 30 प्रतिशत पैसा कपास का दिया जाता है बाकी 70 प्रतिशत के लिए कहा जाता है कि बाद में देंगे। कल्टीवेटर कैसे जीएगा ? उसके बच्चों की, बच्चियों की शादी कैसे होगी ? बाकी सब खर्चे उस के कैसे चलेंगे ?

सभापति महोदय : हेड़ाऊ जी, महाराष्ट्र सरकार की मोनोपली स्कीम पर चर्चा यहां इस समय प्रस्तुत नहीं होगी। यहां तो कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री को क्या करना चाहिए, काटन कारपोरेशन को क्या करना चाहिए यह आप कहना चाहते हैं तो कहिए।

श्री राम हेड़ाऊ : वही मैं बता रहा हूं कपास के बारे में कि आज कल्टीवेटर को पूरा पैसा नहीं दिया जाता। यहां तक कि कपास की कई बेलें आज पड़ी हुई है, उनकी बिक्री की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं हो रही है। इतना ही नहीं वह कपास आज जलाया जा रहा है। हम दीगर देशों से कपास का आयात कर रहे हैं और महाराष्ट्र में बड़े अनोखे ढंग से प्लानिंग के साथ करोड़ो रुपये का कपास रोज जलाया जा रहा है। ये महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट के आकड़े हैं जिन से यह स्पष्ट होता है। वहां के सहकार मंत्री ने यह लिखा है कि 128 आगजनी हुई है जिस में 82 लाख का कपास जल गया है। रोज आगजनी हो रही है। इस के पीछे एक ही बात है। वाणिज्य मंत्रालय इस पर ध्यान दे। यह बात क्यों हो रही है ? स्पष्ट है इस एकाधिकार कपास खरीदी के अन्तर्गत जो घोटाले हुए हैं जो भ्रष्टाचार हुआ है उस दोष को पूरा छिपाने के लिए आज वहां का कपास जलाया जा रहा है ताकि यह पाप जनता के सामने न आए, देश के सामने न आए। यहां तक बात हुई है इसमें कि एकाधिकार बॉडी के झूठे रिकार्ड मेन्टेन किए गए हैं और घटिया किस्म के कपास ऊंचे दाम पर खरीदे गए हैं, उसके नाप-तौल में भी गड़बड़ हुई है और यह सब पाप करके करोड़ो रुपये का गबन उसमें किया गया है उस सबको छिपाने के लिए आज यहां कपास जलाया जा रहा है। इस की जांच होनी चाहिए। मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट भले ही इस की एन्क्वायरी करती हो, महाराष्ट्र गवर्नमेंट ने इसकी एन्क्वायरी करने का आश्वासन दिया है, किन्तु मेरा विश्वास नहीं है क्यों कि यह सब बातें जो वहां हो रही रही है इसके लिए सहकार मंत्री महाराष्ट्र का जिम्मेदार है और सहकार मंत्री बड़े पूंजीपतियों के हाथ में खेलने वाला एक खिलौना बन गया है.. (व्यवधान)...

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi): Do you allow these accusations against a man who is not here to defend himself ?

श्री राम हेड़ाऊ : मैं सरकार से मांग करूंगा कि सी बी आई के द्वारा इसकी एन्क्वायरी होनी चाहिए और इस योजना के अंदर जो लगातार आगजनी हो रही है इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए।

सभापति महोदय : देखिए अब आप इतने नये नहीं हैं जितने कि पहले थे। इस सदन का यह नियम है कि जो व्यक्ति यहां उपस्थित न हो उसके विरुद्ध यदि कोई आक्षेप आप को करना है तो आपको उसकी पहले जानकारी स्पीकर को देनी चाहिए। उनकी इजाजत लेनी चाहिए और फिर यह आरोप लगाना चाहिए यदि उन की इजाजत मिले। यह अभी जो आपने आरोप लगाया किसी का नाम लेकर या राज्य मंत्री का नाम लेकर यह उचित नहीं है।

श्री राम हेड़ाऊ : मैंने महाराष्ट्र की सरकार पर आरोप लगाया है।

सभापति महोदय : हां, सरकार पर आरोप लगा सकते हैं। किसीव्यक्ति का नामन लें।

श्री राम हेड़ाऊ : मैं वाणिज्य मंत्रालय से विनती करूंगा कि हमारे यहां जो दीगर देशसे लम्बे धागे का कपास आयात करने की आज भी परंपरा जारी है, उसको रोकना चाहिए और हमारे देश में लम्बे धागे का कपास उत्पादित करने के लिए काश्तकारों को पूरी सहूलियत देनी चाहिए। जो कपास लम्बे धागे का यहां उत्पादित होगा उसका पूरा पूरा उपयोग यहीं

[श्री राम हेड़ऊ]

कपड़े में परिवर्तित करने के लिए करना चाहिए। फिरवह टेक्सटाइल के मार्फत हो, हैंडलूम के मार्फत हो, जैसे हो, उसका पूरा पूरा उपयोग होना चाहिए। ... (व्यवधान) ... चरखा तो गांधी जी ने आप को बताया था, लेकिन आप भूल गए।

रेडीमेड कपड़ा इस देश मे हम काफी मात्रा मे तैयार कर सकते है। हैंडलूम से भी विविध रंग-बिरंगे ऊंचे किस्म के कपड़े जो बाहर देशों में बड़े चाव के साथ पहने जाते हैं, जिस की भारी डिमांड है यहां तैयार कर सकते है। वह हमे तैयार करना चाहिए और उसे रेडीमेड कपडे मे परिवर्त्तन करना चाहिए। उसके लिए एक ऐसी योजना बनानी चाहिए कि जिस के अंतर्गत कलागीर का भी एक प्रतिनिधि रहे, एक कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री का भी प्रतिनिधि रहे और उनके जरिए डिमांड और सप्लाई का हिसाब जोड कर के उचित कपडे से यहां रेडीमेड कपड़ा बना कर अधिक से अधिक मात्रा में हम दीगर देशो में भेजने की कोशिश करें। यदि ऐसा हम करते हैं तो हमे फारेन एक्सचेंज अधिक मिलेगा। उसका परिणाम यह होगा कि यहां के जो कलावंत लोग हैं, उनको भी धन्धा मिलेगा, उनकी स्थिति अच्छी होगी, उनकी बेकारी दूर होगी और यहा के कपास को उचित दाम मिलेगा। यह मै आपसे मांग करना चाहता हूं।

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): Mr. Chairman, after the emphasis of the last two speakers on cotton, I want to shift the emphasis on two other commodities, which are the most dependable foreign exchange earners in this country, that is, tea and jute, commodities in which I feel that our dynamic Commerce Minister should take more interest, because it is the region from he comes that these two commodities grow in abundance.

Nobody can deny the role tea and jute have played in the economy of this country during the years. In 1973-74 the contribution of tea to the national exchequer by way of foreign exchange earnings has been to the tune of Rs. 148.1 crores and that of jute Rs. 280.6 crores. We also know that these two commodities have contributed to the revenues of the national economy itself, as can be seen from the statistics which I have in my possession. From an economically backward State like Assam, over the last three years from tea and jute the Government of India has earned more than Rs. 49.66 lakhs.

Also, these two commodities have various other qualities which we have to take note of. For example, tea and jute have provided employment to the largest number of persons in this country. They are highly employment-oriented commodities. Jute has contributed to the national development without really any contribution from the side of the Government, by way of innovation or technological development. In the case of tea, it has carried technological development to the backward regions. Also, comparatively speaking, tea is a low profit-yielding commodity. For example, I have got statistics to show that from 1965-66 to the end of the decade the profit on tea came down from 7.79 per cent to 5.1 per cent, whereas the profits in the case of other agro-industrial commodities have mounted up. My main complaint against the Commerce Ministry is that, though these two commodities have stood by the economy, these two commodities have been subjected to very very indifferent treatment by the Government of India.

Since I have come to this Parliament, I have raised this issue of the irrational excise duties on tea times without number. For the information of the hon House I want to point out that the entire country has been divided into five zones for the purpose of levying excise duties Whereas Zone 1 has to pay an excise duty of 25 paise per kg, Zone 3 has to pay an excise duty of Rs. 1.50 per kg. and Zone 5, the zone in which I am really interested, the Assam Zone had to pay Rs. 1.15 per kg. till the recent budget proposals came, and now it has to pay Rs. 1.30 per kg. In spite of my repeated queries to the Commerce Mini-

stry as to the rationalisation of the differentiation of these zones, no reply has come. In fact, the Commerce Minister had to admit that there is no rationalisation behind these artificially created zones. I was pleading with the Commerce Ministry that either there should be some rationalisation of the zones or the duties themselves. I was told that there would be rationalisation. The Commerce Ministry, in reply to questions, told me more than once that a case in the Supreme Court is standing in the way of rationalisation. Because, when I raised this question, there were some cases pending in the Supreme Court, where the tea growers went to the court and obtained an order of stay I was told that there was an order of stay from the court and so they are not prepared to rationalise. But suddenly I find that in spite of the existence of such a stay order, in the budget proposals of this year, instead of there being any rationalisation, there is enhancement in some zones and reduction in only one zone. Last year the stock reply was that the stay order in the Supreme Court stood in the way of rationalisation. Yet, in spite of the fact that the situation still remains the same, the Commerce Ministry went out of their way and changed the whole position. This creates a very bad impression, because a feeling is created that you take Members of Parliament very lightly, you are not at all serious when you give your replies, you give replies to the Members of Parliament to suit your own convenience. Even today I would request the Commerce Minister to give some rational basis as to how this differentiation has been made.

May I point out to him that Zone 5, which you have taxed the highest, namely, Rs. 1.30 per kg. is the zone from which 75 per cent of this country's export takes place. The entire emphasis of this levy is also export promotion and export incentive. How can you expect to have export promotion and export incentive when you have subjected this export-oriented zone with a very high rate of excise duty? We also should not forget that in the international market the export price of tea is dwindling over the years.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The rationale appears to be that the more you export the more you should pay by way of excise duties.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: That seems to be so; I do not know. In the 1950s the price that was fetched in the London auction market was 63 pence per pound, whereas in 1972 it came down to 41.6 pence per pound. Also, we should not forget that India's share in the world market has gone down over the years. In the two decades between 1950 and 1970 the growth of the world import of tea was to the extent of 4.5 per cent, but the rate of growth of India was only 0.56 per cent, whereas that of Africa was 11 per cent and that of Ceylon 2.45 per cent. These are facts which we should not forget. Last year, of course, we had a bumper-export of the tea industry and we really got a bumper profit. But we should not take into account the entire economy on the basis of the economy of a particular year.

There are some exceptional causes for it. For instance, last year we had a bumper crop. Then, it is said that last year the London stocks were low. It is said that last year there was much less production in Africa and also in Ceylon because of drought. All these might have contributed to the flourishing tea trade for India in the London auction market last year. But, that should not be the ground on the basis of which either the Finance Ministry or the Commerce Ministry should do their accounting.

I feel that the Commerce Ministry should once more go into the whole question and, as they said earlier, they should rationalise the tea excise duty. I will plead with him once more that at least he should see that the excise duty of Zone 5 may be reduced to a certain extent. They should have a fresh look at the rebate system also.

Also I want to point out to him that in spite of the fact that a task force has been setup to go into the entire tea industry, the fact remains that more and more tea gardens are going sick today, and up till now no definite policy has been laid down by government as to what

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

they are going to do with the sick tea gardens. I am told that the task force gave a proposal that those sick tea gardens should be taken over for a period of seven years and then handed over to the management. I do not know the rationale of this policy that you take a sick garden upon yourself, you make it healthy and then pass it on to the owners. Obviously, the Commerce Ministry or the Government of India should come forward with certain definite policies as to how they are going to treat the entire question.

Then I come to the other most neglected item, but the most important item of foreign exchange earner, that is, jute, It is unfortunate that in spite of the fact that this commodity has stood by the economy of this country so long, still there has not been any proper pricing policy and there has been absolutely no fiscal policy in regard to this. Today we have got a very strong cotton lobby over which probably the Chairman is also putting as much weight as possible. But, unfortunately, there is no lobby to support jute. I will give you some very interesting statistics. As early as 1940 the Floud Commission was appointed to find out what should be the parity price for jute vis-a-vis other commodities and it came to the conclusion that the parity price for jute vis-a-vis paddy should be 1:3. That was in 1940 and now it should be more because, so far as rice cultivation is concerned, certainly there has been scientific development whereas jute cultivation remains as it is But you will be surprised to learn that whereas according to the support price of the Government itself, the price of rice or paddy is Rs. 75 per quintal, the price of jute today is Rs. 125. Therefore, that parity which the Floud Commission recommended as early as 1940 has not been fulfilled, not to speak of the fact that that parity no longer holds goods. The result is that the condition of the jute growers today in the entire country, particularly in the north eastern region, is something which one cannot really describe. I will show also from the statistics to illustrate how the price fluctuation has very adversely affected the jute growers. If we take 1961-62 as the base year, during the last 15 years the price of rice has increased from 137 units in 1961-62 to 204, wheat from 149 to 208, cotton from 191 to 222 while jute from 127 to only 131. This is the miserable plight of the jute growers.

Unfortunately, there are many other constraints for the jute growers. If a person produces paddy, if he takes it to the market and he does not get an adequate price, he can take it home and consume it and sustain his living. But if a jute grower takes his jute to the market, even if the price is low, he is compelled to sell it. Otherwise, with an empty pocket, he cannot come back home and feed his own children. His position is always exploited. We know how the big business community, the big houses, the jute monopolists are not only influencing the whole jute market but also adversely affecting the political atmosphere in this country. It is because of lack of bargaining power of the jute growers.

The Jute Corporation was established. But, I think, the less said about the Jute Corporation, the better it is This is affecting very adversely the north-eastern region If you take into account the exploitation that the jute monopolists have done in the north-eastern region, then we reach a very staggering figure Here, I quote from one of my own newspaper report:

> "If the losses suffered by the jute growers and the jute growing States from not getting the just or the parity prices is taken into account and if they are added up year by year on the basis of the wholesale price as reflected in the statistical information of the Government of India, the total losses suffered in the eastern States from 1955-56 to 1969-70 come to about Rs. 986.97 crores. For the jute growers themselves, the losses are much more than this amount as they received a much lower price than even the quoted wholesale price and they had to pay much higher price than the quoted wholesale prices for the essential commodities by purchase of which they maintain their livelihood."

These facts are all known to the hon. Minister, Prof. D. P. Chattopadhyaya, who is very closely associated with the north eastern region. But, it seems, something either in the bureaucratic machinery or somewhere is coming in his way of implementing the progressive measures. Let me hope that at least, while replying to the debate on the Demands for Grants of his Ministry, he will give some indication as to what positive measures are being taken in this regard.

I expect from him, at least this time, not a parliamentary answer but a non-parliamentary answer. You may ask me: Why am I asking for a non-parliamentary answer? Let me refer to an antedate. Once Mr. Llyod George was travelling in Scotland and lost his way. So, he asked a passerby, stopping his car, "Where am I?". The person replied, "You are in a car." Mr. Llyod George told his companion who was sitting by his side. "It is the perfect parliamentary answer." It is to the point; it is true but it discloses nothing." I do not want such an answer and, I hope, that such a parliamentary reply will not come from the hon. Minister, D. P. Chattopadhyaya, at least this time.

SHRI N. E. HORO (Khunti): Mr. Chairman, Sir, shellac is a foreign exchange earner. But I find that the Government have neglected this item very much. According to the statistics I have, we used to produce about 60,000 to 70,000 tonnes of shellac every year, about two decades ago.

But now this has come down to about 18,000 tonnes. I have tried to find out the reasons, and it seems to me that Government have not taken proper care and have left this item to the mercy of the traders.

There was a time when our country was competing in the international market. We were the single country in the international market exporting lac, but now Thailand has been competing and we are lagging behind.

In 1958-59 Government introduced the minimum export price. Prior to this our production was good and the price was also good. But after the introduction of the minimum export price, because the export is in the hands of a certain few monopoly traders, stationed mostly in Calcutta, they have been influencing the entire trade with the result that the interests of the growers and the manufacturers have suffered. It seems to me that this is the only reason why production has gone down and why prices have also gone down.

We are exporting about 83 to 85 per cent of our total production, and we consume about 15 per cent at home. We have four crops of shellac in a year. This important item is mainly grown in Bihar, specially in Chhota Nagpur and also in Madhya Pradesh. There are about five lakh families, mostly adivasis, who are engaged in producing lac. There are about 200 registered factories and about 300 unregistered factories and they are engaging about 30,000 to 40,000 labourers. The Government have neglected this item which is a foreign exchange-earner. The entire commercial activities are in the hands of the monopolists. So, the growers have really suffered to a great extent.

Now, I want to quote certain figures. The price of lac has come down to about one or two rupees per kg. In Calcutta, the prevailing market price is about Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 per packet of 75 kg. The exporters are exporting at a fantastic price. The minimum export price is about Rs. 1800 for a packet of 75 kg., and I am told that Thailand is exporting the same packet of 75 kg. at a rate of about Rs. 600 to Rs. 700. From this you can understand that the exporters are earning a big margin of profit, and this has led them to have a complete grip over the market and they are now dictating terms, resulting in throw-away prices being given to the growers. In the entire line—from the growers to the manufacturers—they are all suffering in the trade in Shellac, whether hand-made or machine-made. This problem has been brought to the notice of the Commerce Minister and I understand that, from time to time, the representatives of the manufacturers have also met him. Some kind of an assurance was given to

[Shri N. E. Horo]

them. But I do not see anything happening. It seems to me that already some vested interests have grown up and they have a grip over the Ministry itself. I think, nothing is going to happen unless there is some kind of a miracle. Unless Government decides to go in for a probe into the entire affair, I think, nothing will happen Last time the House was so much occupied with the licence scandal. If you probe deep into this trade, export of shellac, I think, more sensational things will come up.

There are about 29 exporters, but, out of them there are a very few—only three or four of them—who are actually monopolists and it is in their hands the entire trade is concentrated and some of these monopolists have high links with people in position, both in the government and in the establishment. Therefore, I would demand a CBI inquiry into it and unless this is done, we are not going to save the fate of lakhs and lakhs of adivasis who have during the last two decades suffered at the hands of these people we are talking much of Government controlling the trade and other things, nationalisation and all that I want the Government to take up and nationalise this business and trade in shellac. The Government may make this arrangement either through the STC or any other machinery. Let that agency purchase lac from the growers themselves directly and save the fate of these growers. Everything is done from the point of view of traders and from the point of view of exporters. I want that the Government should now decide to act in the interests of growers. I do not know whether this can come under the purview of the Agricultural Prices Commission But I want they should go into it and examine the matter and there should be a support and minimum price for the growers fixed in order to save their interests. Mr Chairman, you were talking from there and pleading for the support of growers of cotton. I plead for the growers of shellac They should possibly be protected in this way and the entire trade from the point of production to export, should be taken over by the Government through its own agency of STC or any such agency. This is my suggestion. Shellac is a very important foreign-exchange-earner which we have so far neglected, and the trade in which, at the same time, has made serious inroads into the economic life of millions and millions of Adivasis Therefore, I want that the Commerce Ministry should take up this matter in the right earnest and should agree for a thorough probe either by the CBI into the entire affair because the monopoly which has indulged into corrupt practice and loaded income tax and which has come up in this trade, has to be broken

SHRI K GOPAL (Karur) I rise to support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry and while doing so, I would tell the Minister that a good salesman has to be honest, intelligent and efficient but all those who are honest, intelligent and efficient cannot necessarily be good salesmen This has been amply proved by the fact that though Prof Chattopadhyaya and his able colleague, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh are both intelligent, honest and efficient, but have not proved to be good salesmen

They have taken the pride for that the exports this year are going to be something like Rs 3000 crores To the extent they have achieved in terms of money value, I congratulate them But what is the position in terms of quantities? According to the report—I just quote·

> "Inspite of the fact that cotton piece-goods, the largest items of the group, suffered a decline of about 88 million sq metres or 29 per cent in terms of quantity, the value of exports increased by about 20 per cent to Rs. 77 crores during April-September 1974 from Rs. 65 crores in the corresponding period of 1973 This improvement in earnings was on account of a significant rise in the unit value realisation. Other cotton manufactures also registered an appreciable increase."

Same is the case with regard to tea exports.

> "In the case of tea, exports during the period amounting to 93.4 million kg. valued at Rs. 881 crores showed a fall of 1.5 million kg. in the quantity but a rise of Rs. 28.1 crores in value due to 49 per cent increase in unit value realisation."

So, Sir, this sort of figures given in this report is no good; this does not take us anywhere. It has got no meaning. Just because you say, unit value realisation has increased, it does not mean you achieved the purpose and all that. What is your performance in actual terms? That is nothing, I am sorry to say that. What should we do for export? Have we got enough machinery for our sales promotion campaigns? Have we got this machinery in other countries? Have we considered all these points? This is what I would like to know from the hon. Minister. Have you considered as to what are the goods which are available in the country for the purpose of exports? For example, take marine exports. In marine exports the potential is very much; you export now only 1/10 of what you can export. There is vast scope here for increasing exports. You have not made any attempt even so, by conducting fairs, melas and exhibitions and so on Take fairs and exhibitions. You must do it, I agree; but what are the follow-up measures? You say, so many lakhs have been received by way of on-the-spot sales and all that. But what have you achieved really after conducting the sales? Rightly or wrongly, there is a prestige value attached to the production items which are made in western countries. The middle east countries which have got plenty of petro-dollars do not even want to buy from us. They like to turn to the west. We must see in what way we can increase our exports to these countries.

A salesman has to be honest, I said in the beginning. He has to be honest in submitting his account to his employer. At the same time he has to be somewhat crooked, in the matter of sales-promotion. I do not know how far this can be done, but I am thinking aloud, namely, whether it will be possible for you to sell your production or getting associated with some foreign country like UK or France or some other country. I am told this thing is happening in some of the engineering industries. There is some such arrangement in respct of middle-east countries. There are so many engineering companies whose names, I do not wish to mention here. What they do is, they are given sub-contract there. At least some such thing we can manage for the time being.

Also, efforts should be made to have aggressive sales promotion campaign in all countries of the world. Regarding revision of prices for exportable goods, I do not know how often you raise the prices. We are entering into long-term contracts when we import. When we are exporting, I want to know whether you are revising your prices, six-monthly or whatever it is according to the international prices. If it is not done, it should be done. That is my suggestion.

In respect of finished goods, instead of raw material, we should send finished goods and earn more in that process. Take finished leather goods for example. We send semi-finished goods to other countries Even though there may be opposition in our own country in the south, efforts should be made to send finished goods to European countries and other countries. We sent leather goods to Germany. They turned them into finished products and they got more profits than they should have got. We should have got these profits. So, this is what we should do.

Then, with regard to the CCI—the Cotton Corporaion of India, I wish to say something. This is a public sector organisation started with the object of giving remunerative price and also to stabilise the marketing prices. How can they operate this business with this meagre allocation of Rs. 10 crores? When this was started, they were promised Rs. 150 crores. Now only Rs. 10 crores is given. How can this amount be sufficient if you want them to fulfil the objectives for which the Cotton Corporation has been set-up?

[Shri K. Gopal]

Finally I come to the public sector undertaking wig India, Madras. This undertaking is closed for many months. The Minister is aware of this. An agitation has been going on for quite some time. I tabled a question for which, as my hon. friend, Shri Goswami said, the only parliamentary reply came was that an investigating committee was going into the problem and very soon they would do something. I do not know what that something would be Even the Minister is sympathetic. I would like to tell him that the workers are amounting to more than 700 a majority of whom were women They are restless If the agitation of a serious nature is launched, I am afraid I will not be held responsible even though I have been pleading with the Minister that something should be done A bill for the constitution of a tobacco board was passed last time I would now request the Minister to form this Board at an early date.

Finally, with regard to the management of public sector undertakings a specialist who knows the skill in professional management should be there.

A technocrat can be a good bureaucrat. But a bureaucrat can never be a good technocrat

The performance that has been given in this Report with regard to export figures is nothing but a jugglery — it is a big joke What I would request him to keep in mind is the actual performance of the exports in terms of quantity. Let not the ministry take the plea that the entire organisational set up has to be changed Let him not say that he cannot disturb them who are there For God's sake please reorganise the whole thing Coming to the problem of handloom which affects my area to a very great extent, I say that for the past 1½ years, the fluctuation of the price of yarn was very much that it neither has benefited the producer, nor it has benefited the consumer. The price has ranged anywhere between Rs 50 and 90 for a bundle of 5 kg I suggest that you may fix any price you like—Rs. 60 or 70 or so But please see that the particular price rules the market at least for six months. Now what is happening is this. The producer who is the weaver is not at all benefited. The consumer is not benefited. As a matter of fact, the wholesaler is also not benefited. The middle man like the retailer in other spheres is benefited by this. Please have a good distribution policy for the yarn so that these malpractices could be obviated. With regard to distribution policy, when we asked about this we are told that this has been entrusted to the State Government. The Textile Commissioner can only lay down the policy. They cannot do anything. The actual implementation rests with the State Government. As I said earlier, you may fix any price for it But see that it rules for some time Before I conclude, I wish you to refer to page 183 of this report. They have said that they have got departments dealing with enemies' properties On the one side you say that we do not have enemies. Then why not change this nomenclature? Please look at page 183, Appendix VII There is a list of subjects under the control of the ministry-trading with the enemy, the enemy firms and enemy property, repatriations, other than German industrial equipment, Controller of enemy trading; controller of enemy firms; custodian of enemy property etc, etc

For God's sake change this nomenclature With these few words, I support the Demands for Grants relating to this Ministry.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Mr Chairman, Sir, the purpose of my intervention is limited to agricultural commodities and certain other items.

The hon Members have made profound points and have covered as great an expanse of the subject as the sea itself So, I shall start from the sea itself—the marine products. The export of Marine products have shown a spectacular growth in the last decade reaching a peak in 1973-74, earning a foreign exchange of Rs. 89.51 crores.

Last year we did receive a set-back and I must frankly confess that quantity-wise we were down by 15.7% and value-wise by about 25%. One of reasons for this down-trend last year was inflationary conditions in the world market whereby shrimp, our major marine export item, being a luxury item faced consumer resistance. In U.S.A. poultry and meat were selling cheaper than shrimp. Again in U.K. the canned shrimp inventories were quite high. There was increased supply of shrimp to USA from its gulf area. Japan, one of our major purchasers, also entered into contracts with mainland China for supply of shrimp. These were the circumstances which we had to face. We do not think that this is going to be a permanent feature and hope that the marine products export will pick up.

As has been pointed out by Mr. Gopal, just now, deep sea fishing has a very genuine case and most serious efforts has to be made in that direction. The world utilisation of sea potential is round-about 5, 6 per cent with an annual potential of 118 million tonnes. In the Indian ocean the exploitation is only 10 to 12 per cent with the annual potential of 10 to 12 million tonnes.

As compared to in-share the potential in off-shore and deep-sea fishing is three to six times more and it is on account of this that the Commerce Ministry and the Agriculture Ministry brought out a scheme for import of trawlers for exploitation of deep sea fish. That was the reason as to why some of the big houses were allowed to go into trade. Some hon. Members were critical about their entry. The basic approach was that this being a capital intensive industry requiring specialisation, perhaps the money and expertise of the big houses will be helpful. We did take precautions to protect the medium and small entrepreneurs by providing that the big Houses would not fish in inland water, that they would confine their processing to their own catch and put their factories in under-developed areas. There may be lapses on this score. The Agriculture Ministry is considering a proposal by which trans-gressions by these big houses could be dealt with. Sir, we are really serious about the exploitation of our marine potential. Therefore, we have allowed the import of about 80 trawlers for deep sea fishing. Though the trawlers have been a little tardy in coming, we are making all efforts so that their arrival is hastened.

Sir, we have to emphasise on diversification of our marine products. About 92% of the value of the marine exports is earned from shrimp and about 75% of our off take is only to USA and Japan. We have to diversify product-wise as well as market-wise. Product-wise, sardines and tunas have special significance. 28% of our landings are sardines. Though we have certain difficulties regarding the earns for sardines we are making efforts to solve them so as to increase our exports of Sardines. Last year, we have also given cash assistance of about 20% for canned Sardines. Tuna fishing is a specialised field in which perhaps collaboration will be needed. The vessels also are specialised. We are making efforts in that direction. Mr. . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: To whom would you entrust these trawlers that you are getting?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Sir, I will come to this point later on. A point was made by Mr. Matha Gowder about the trawlers and their allocation. It was made out that Marine Products Export Development Authority has not been given its proper role and it has not been given enough funds. In this regard, I would like to give the Budget provisions. The budget provision in 1974-75 was Rs. 21.44 lakhs. This year, it has been raised to Rs. 83.41 lakhs. There is a rise of Rs. 62 lakhs in one year. This should dispel any idea that the Marine Products Export Development Authority is not being given its proper place. About trawlers, a fear was expressed that it is being given only to big houses. I may give some figures. Public sector corporations have been allowed 20, small and medium parties 28 and large houses have been given only 12 and that too not more than two each. About 27½% subsidy is being

[Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

given for orders with the indigenous manufacturers of trawlers. I hope some of the fears expressed by the hon. Members could be dispelled.

Now, coming to tea, I cannot say that we have made great strides in quantitatively increasing the export of tea.

The main reason for this has been the growing demand of the domestic market. In the last two decades whereas production has risen by 52%, internal consumption has risen by 171%. This economic gravitational pull of the domestic market is a great constraint to exports. During the same time world supply has risen by 2.7%, but, consumption has risen by only 1.8%. So whereas world supply has gone up and consumption has not gone up accordingly, in the domestic market demand has gone up three-fold to outstrip the supply. The pull of the domestic market as well as a difficult on account of greater supplies in the international market has been a factor affecting our export of tea in quantitative terms. The heartening factor this year has been the rise of 40 per cent in tea prices. But I would not be very much satisfied on that account, because it has only come back to the 1954 price, thus in real terms is not a real rise.

We have been taking concerted action at the international level and have contacted major tea-exporting countries like Indonesia, Malaysia and African counries like Kenya and have tried to promote a multi-dimensional approach as was discussed in the FAO meeting in June last year. This includes minimum export price arrangements, coordination and regulating of tea markets, encouraging auctions in producing countries and exchange of market intelligence. About promotional measures, apart from generic measures, we also undetrake uni-national measures of promotion. We have, as has been mentioned by some members, opened overseas Tea Board offices in London, Paris, New York and Brussels for promotion of Indian tea. Sometimes we have to make a little compromise and be realistic about market conditions and we have to go in collaboration with certain companies abroad to sell our product, but at the same time, we are not negligent about projecting the image of Indian tea. The TTCI has come up with "Nataraj" packeted tea for promoting Indian brand of tea. Thus while being realistic about external conditions and the international market, we are making all efforts to project our own brand of tea and our own image.

Shri Goswami made a mention of the Task Force and its report on sick tea gardens. In this respect, in response to a circular by the Tea Board, 125 gardens have claimed themselves to be sick. While we have proposals of supporting and reviewing the tea industry, but before we take over any tea garden, we have to see whether there is availability of labour there, whether it is commercially viable and whether the condition of the factory itself is such that it could be revived. However, the Report of the Task Force which includes all these three points or suggestions is under consideration of Government and we hope that some decision will be taken early

As regards schemes for small growers, in the Fifth Plan the following schemes have been included for them. Co-operative tea factories about Rs. 108 lakhs; zonal multiplication centres which includes Tamil Nadu (6), Kerala (1), Himachal Pradesh (1) and UP (2), Rs. 2.25 lakhs; demonstration plots including Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh Rs 4.80 lakhs; warehouses and storage of tea Rs. 80 lakhs; survey of small growers in Tamil Nadu Rs. 0.55 lakhs.

There are some other schemes: these are the major ones for the small growers. A point was made by Mr. Goswami about the zonal excise duties; a point was also made from the Chair that it might be a disincentive to export. It is not so. We give rebate. Earlier we used to give 75 paise per kg of export and we have increased it to 85 paise per kg. If tea is exported rebate on excise duty is given. There is

no disincentive on exports due to this excise. However the excise duty had to be hiked up this year because we do feel that internal consumption has to be restrained to make surplus is available for exports. The Calcutta High Court in March 1974 gave a judgment upholding the validity of the differential rates for different zones.

Having had a cup of tea we can pass on to cashew. Charges were made against Cashew Corporation that it was negligent and had not procured nuts this year. I strongly refute this contention and can firmly say that Cashew Corporation took full action for the procurement of nuts. In this industry we are about 75 per cent dependent on imported nuts. We grow about140,000 tonnes of Cashew out of which about 70,000 is available for export purposes. About 170,000 is generally imported. So that the total available is 240,000 tonnes whereas the installed capaciy for processing cashew is nearly four lakhs. Every year we are short of about 160,000 tonnes of raw cashew nuts. This had been the features in which the factories could not run for the whole year; even if they ran for eight months it was considered to be good.

[SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI *in the Chair.*]

In this context, the situation this year has been especially aggravated because of the African countries which used to supply nuts, having hiked up their price, we felt that if we bought the nuts, it would be difficult to sell them and even if we sold them it would be at a loss. African countries have started their own processing. They have seen the light and have mechanised the process of decortication of cashew. Apart from supplies being cut off from the East African countries, we are also facing competition from countries which have started purchasing cashew nuts like China. China has gone in a big way in the purchase of cashew nut. Brazil which is a producer, has also gone in to purchase of cashew nuts and it is making inroads into some of our markets. This is the situation that we have to realise, it leads us to the clear conclusion that except for indigenous production, the availability of raw cashew from imported sources, would be more and more difficult. It is time the country realised this hard fact. Afterwords about the efforts of the Cashew Corporation of India.

Last year the Tanzanian people intimated that they would be coming: they did not turn up and said that they would be coming afer sometime. But the Cashew Corporation felt that there was no time to lose. So a delegation went over. But the prices Tanzania quoted were exceptionally high. A Tanzanian delegation came in March but left in a huff because we could not agree to their prices.

Any way a team has gone to London and I have received some hopeful news. May be we will be able to contract for some nuts if they come down a little on prices. Thus the Cashew Corporation had been taking all action in this respect. For indigenous production, a provision has been made for making capital subscription available to State Cashew development corporations We are contacting the States also about how to get together to increase the production of cashew.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Why not ban the use of cashewnuts in the country and export them?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I suppose we should start from the Central Hall!

The rupee return of cashew being low, we have to find out areas where th soil is not so good and other crops cannot be competitively grown. Only in such areas cashew could become a a profitable crop. Such areas have been identified and action is being taken in this regard.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA (Giridih): Is Chhotanagpur one of them?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I know of Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

AN HON MEMBER: What about Ratnagiri in Maharashtra?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: These suggestions will be taken note of It will be very encouraging if we can find more areas for cashew cultivation

Sir, in mica, there has been a downward trend of production, but that has been mainly due to the cost of production going up To check this, we raised minimum floor prices and that has helped production In 1973, the production was 13,572 tonnes It went up to 17,863 tonnes in 1974

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA: Does it include mica waste and mica scrap also?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I do not have the break-up This is the total production of mica We canalise this item through the Mica Trading Corporation Till now MITCO had a share of 30% of the exports and 70% was serviced by the private sector The purpose of canalisation was to reach the weaker sections and open up potentialities of export for those who had not the financial resources to do so It will be our endeavour to see that MITCO has an increasing role to play and various suggestions are under the consideration of the Government At the same time, we should have an overall mica policy as to at what rate this strategic item should be exploited and at what rate it should be exported We intend going into this problem At the same time, there should be a shift from processed mica to fabricated mica This is also under examination

Sir, how we may have an interlude with a puff of tobacco inbetween The export of tobacco has gone up from Rs 68 41 crores in 1973-74 to Rs 76 crores in 1974-75 However, in 1975-76 we do not hope that quantity-wise it will go up, because we have had short crop, but we do hope that in 1975-76 value-wise the exports would go up because of higher unit value realisation.

We have upgraded the MEP price and this will fetch us better returns. This House has passed the Tobacco Board Bill Some members have expressed concern about the Board not coming up yet The Cess Bill is yet to be passed We are making all efforts to see that this Bill is passed As soon as the Cess Bill is passed, we can go ahead with the formation of the Board

Coming to handicrafts, they have shown a remarkable upward trend over the last two years In 1973-74 they reached the peak of Rs 72 6 crores In 1974-75 it exceeded even that and it went to Rs 85 crores In 1975-76 we hope to reach the target of Rs 100 crores The main contribution in the export of handicrafts has been of woollen carpets and art metal ware

Some of the major decisions that we have made for promoting export of handicrafts are as follows In the field of hand-made carpets we have opened training programme centres 16 carpet weaving centres have been set up to cater to the requirements of the industry 30 more training centres are planned to be set up 7 market research extension centres are functioning and more are going to be brought up A centre for technological improvements in the art metal ware has been set up in Moradabad Centres for bamboo and red clay designs have also been set up Also, cash assistance is provided against export to the tune of 10 per cent, for woollen carpets, druggest and rugs An outlay of Rs 160 lakhs has been provided in the current financial year for promotion of developmental schemes in the handicrafts sector Hand-woven druggets and *namda* have been recently classified as non-traditional items of export so that we could give more incentives and some more concessions for their exports. We have introduced quality control Import replenishment for exports, has been liberalised recently.

Shri Gopal referred to the condition of the handloom industry. It is true that in context of our social objectives the handloom industry has a very vital role to play. In this field production last year has been up by 5 per cent and export earnings up by 27 per cent. Both have been due to better availabitliy of raw material and boom in the export market.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What is your marketing channel to purchase the goods produced by the primary producers, both in the field of handicrafts and in shellac, because that is the real bottleneck.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: That is an important point. If we have to really reach the growers, we must have direct purchasing centres. I shall be coming to that point. At present a large part of the benefit that we try to pass on is absorbed at the intermediate levels. Shellac has been mentioned. This is actually a problem at the State level. We have also written to the States When the Shellac Advisory Committee was formed, this issue had come up. Perhaps some sort of arrangement with the States could be made whereby they could start purchasing the entire product from the growers. It may be a good idea if Growers' Co-operatives could be formed and the State could give some financial assistance. The infra-structure will also have to be provided in the form of cold storages etc. because lac is a parishable commodity.

So far as handicrafts are concerned, we have the State Emporia which make purchases from the artistes directly. In this Budget we have made a provision of Rs. 20 lakhs for the All-India Handloom Marketing Co-operative Society This society purchases from the producers. For the opening of two new Weavers Service Centres, a provision of Rs. 16 lakhs has been made. For the setting up of two Powerloom Service Centres, a provision of Rs. 16 lakhs has been made. For schemes to be undertaken on the recommendation of the Sivaraman Committee, a provision of Rs. 188 lakhs has been made. Some Members expressed concern that the Sivaraman Committee's recommendations were not going to be implemented. This is concrete proof of Government's intention.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What about reservation of Sarees for the handloom sector as recommended by the Sivaraman Committee?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Some items are being considered for exclusive reservation for the handloom sector.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We know what mischief is being done in the powerloom and mill sector. Do you mean to say that Khatau Mills, for instance, are not producing sarees? Then, what is the meaning of this reservation?

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi): If the cloth is produced in the powerlooms and the border is attached to it, how can you stop it? Coloured sarees are reserved for handlooms.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Why don't you reduce the width?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Questions and answers are being given by the Hon. Members themselves.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We want you to protect 30 lakhs of handloom weavers and their families. We must take a serious view of the matter.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: Our concern has been expressed in the Budget itself. We have not introduced any tax on bank yarn used by the handloom industry

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We want to strengthen your hands.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I thank Mr. Sathe for his suggestion. It will be useful when considering the problem of dividing products between handlooms and mills.

[Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh]

Coming to leather and leather manufactures, Mr. Kachwai and Mr. Gopal made a few points. I am thankful to Mr. Gopal for supporting Government's policy of increasing the exports of finished leather goods in comparison with semi-finished goods and hides. It is this policy that the Government is adopting and, though there has been a little decline in the export of hides and semi-finished goods, there has been an increase in the export of finished leather and leather goods. We have restricted and put quotas on the export of hides and semi-finished leather. Though this year we felt that we should not further reduce the quota in consideration of the stocks already in the country, progressively when the infra-structure increases and more facilities of processing finished goods are available, we will have to restrict the quota further of semi-finished and unfinished leather.

We have also taken certain actions for promoting the manufacture of finished leather and leather goods by simplifying licensing procedures for increasing the capacity for finished leather. Also, we have put a condition that two-thirds of the replenishment entitlement on account of export of hides and finished leather should be ploughed back for purchase of machinery for finished leather. We have facilitated the import of machinery and chemicals also The most important thing for leather is that the Leather Development Corporation is going to be set up under the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies

There is a heartening thing about rubber that we have been able to increase the replenishment subsidy which was Rs. 2,471 to ranging from Rs. 3000 to Rs. 7,500, according to the holding. The lower the holding, the larger the subsidy. The subsidy has been raised to Rs. 300 for holdings above 20 hectares; from 2 to 20 hectares, it is Rs 5000 and, for below 2 hectares, it is Rs. 7,500.

Coming to shellac, the fixation of MEP prices was a issue of debate. It has been argued that fixation of MEP price has brought down production. That is not so. The MEP prices were hiked up in June, 1974. The production has been falling, if you look at the figures, even before the fixation of MEP prices, in 1969-70, the production was 25,742; in 1970-71, it was 25,559, by 1972-73, it fell to 17,000. There were no MEP prices then. In 1974, it went up to 19,000.

AN HON. MEMBER: What is meant by MEP?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The Minimum Export Prices are those prices that we fix below which nobody can sell abroad.

This fall in production is independent of the fixation of MEP prices. The main reasons for the fall in production have been two One is the weather fluctuations and climatic conditions. Once the crop is affected, it is affected over a period time. The second is, substitution by synthetics As the world market of shellac fell it had its impact at the growers level also When the prices of synthetics, due to rise in oil prices, went up, shellac again became competitive and there was an upward trend in the sales of shellac, giving an incentive to the growers too So, to connect fall in production with MEP prices will not be objective.

It is not true to say that there are vested interests encroaching upon the Commerce Ministry. I strongly refute it. When MEP prices were fixed last year and they were hiked up by 400 per cent, the country earned more foreign exchange. The foreign exchange earnings went up from Rs 11.37 crores to Rs. 21 crores. There was no reduction in the quantity of exports So, this contention does not hold good

SHRI N. E. HORO: This figure of Rs. 21 crores includes the previous years' unfulfilled contracts.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: That is true even for previous years. We will have to split up export figures and do detailed accounting. The foreign exchange earnings went up from Rs. 11.37 crores to Rs. 21

crores. That is the year when the MEP prices were hiked up. In fact, the previous MEP prices were irrelevant, not having any context with the reality of the situation. In fact, lac was being exported at a very much higher price than what was then fixed as MEP and when we raised it by 400%, it started having a meaning. Such action has increased our exports quantitatively, and value-wise earned us more foreign exchange. (*Interruptions*). We have set up a Shellac Advisory Committee in which there are not only government officials but also representatives of the Lac Technological Institute and also representatives of the State Governments. They went into the problem of fixation of price. Seeing that the production of lac this year would be greater here and also in Thailand, we have brought down the MEP for machine-made shellac by 15 per cent and hand-made by 22 per cent. We have accepted a price differential between hand-made and machine-made shellac. In fact, the limitation is that of the international demand. There is a limit to which lac is consumed and that is a constraining factor, and if production is above that, we cannot do very much to arrest the fall of prices. But still the point remains that much of this trade is of a monopolistic nature: a few people monopolise the machine-made and a few people monopolise the hand-made shellac industry. The breakthrough in this monopolistic character of trade can be made only when purchases are made at the growers' level, and I suppose the State Governments will take appropriate action in which we may be able to cooperate

Coming to pepper, I must mention only one sentence. India, Malaysia and Indonesia grow about 75 per cent of the pepper in the world. A Pepper Community has been formed between these countries. A director has been proposed. The proposal for Indian director for the Pepper Community is under processing with ESCAP and Chairman of the Pepper Community. We hope that some decisions about the headquarters, about the research centre of the Pepper Community will be made soon.

Coming to coffee, the prices have fallen this year, unfortunately. But even in a falling market, we made purchases at appropriate times so as to buffer the effect. We are making efforts for production of instant coffee and are expanding the production of coffee in non-traditional States like Andhra Pradesh, Assam and Orissa. It is proposed that 2,800 hectares of additional area would be brought under coffee in Andhra Pradesh, 1,800 hectares in Orissa and 2,400 hectares in Assam.

It has been pointed out that the export earnings have been mainly due to inflationary conditions and not due to our drive and thrust in export quantitatively. I want to bring some facts to the notice of the hon. members. I am quoting these figures quantity-wise and not value-wise. I am quoting the figures for the periods April-October 1973 and April-October 1974. In tea, we exported 105.5 million kg. in 1973 and we went up to 114.5 million kg. In cashew kernels, we exported 36.9 thousand tonnes in 1973 and we went up to 41.6 thousand tonnes in 1974. In sugar, we exported in 1973 43.7 million tonnes and in 1974 we went up to 273.8 million tonnes. In lac, we exported 3.1 thousand tonnes in 1973 and we went up to five thousand tonnes in 1974. In cotton piece goods there was a little fall but you will see from these figures that it is not true to say that only because of the price rise and inflationary conditions, our earnings have gone up. Basically, we have increased quantitywise on these various items. I will not say much perhaps now and most of the commodities have already been covered and if some have been left uncovered, I seek the indulgence. . .

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Whether it is of pepper or of lac or of fish, the principle complaint is. . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Naik, please do not interrupt.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: If the hon. Minister yields, I want to make a submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You leave it to your senior Minister.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I am leaving completely.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Since I have wasted ten seconds, the question is of taking the benefits of the export trade to the primary producer which is the most relevant one. Will you kindly enlighten us on this point?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: This requires a co-ordinated action at various levels including the State level and all the Ministries concerned together and I suggest we can discuss this a little later.

Some Members did emphasize the problem of increasing the production for creating exportable surpluses. It is very true the commodity boom has now petered out and is on the wane and it is by increased exports quality-wise that we can keep up our foreign exchange earnings. Therefore, production has to be increased and surpluses made available for exports. This suggestion is very welcome.

With these remarks I thank the hon. Members for their valuable suggestions.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Well-done.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYIA (Giridih): We are now living in the Second Development Decade at a time when the international economic system and the international monetary system are in a convulsion. The developed countries are passing through a phase of stagnation and also depression. We have left behind the Lima Declaration, the UNCTAD I and the UNCTAD II. But, all the time, India's share in the world trade has been dropping from 2.4% in 1950 to 1.6% in 1960 and 0.6% in 1972.

There are, of course, now a number of imponderables—shipping space, shipping freight, currency fluctuations, competition from the synthetics and a number of alternative centres of production coming up and finally the lag in domestic production and insufficient capacity utilisation by the wide spectrum of industrial capacity we have developed over the last 25 years. But there is one silver lining, that there has been a marked drop in the rate of inflation, in the rate of inflationary price-rise since October 1974 and better capacity utilisation. That gives us a greater capacity to mount an export offensive.

Our exports touched Rs 3000 crores, I am told, but the imports have grown faster and now a balance of payments gap of Rs. 1000 crores has developed. Although in individual sectors, the Commerce Ministry has done very well, particularly, I would say, in the matter of iron ore, but the question arises what are you going to do about this Rs. 1000 crores balance of payments gap in the context of your liberalisation of the import policy? We must see that a sizeable portion of our liberalised imports really do increase exports and not go in for internal consumption.

Effective and close monitoring is necessary and sustained enquiry and check-up are needed.

There should be necessary coordination between public sector undertakings (producing various minerals, non-ferrous metals or ferrous metals and even coal) and the MMTC and the Trade Development Authority At present, this coordination is of a loose kind

We have heard how out of Rs. 129 crores non-ferrous metals, 50% will have to be written off eventually This will be hanging like a little white elephant round the Government of India's neck. How did this thing come about? Was it failure of the market intelligence? Was it failure of market survey? This thing would not have arisen if there was a close coordination between Hindustan Zinc, Hindustan Copper and BALCO. Ultimately, this 1,000 crore rupee gap has to be met by trade only. We cannot depend upon aid. It is not flattering also to depend upon aid anv longer.

To insulate the weaker consumers from the tricky situation of fluctuations, in the price of non-ferrous metals, there should be a minimum floor price to the smaller consumers. Additional cost will have to be charged on dual-pricing system and there should be close consultation with Hindustan Zinc, Hindustan Copper and similar other public sector undertakings in this respect.

In respect of zinc, copper, lead rock-phosphate, etc. there is little coordination between our internal productive effort and the imports. There is little coordination in the prices of these elements.

Speaking about Mica, I would say that this is a very controversial subject. This is a complex industry. There are 360 varieties of Mica. The price range is Rs. 1.27 per kg. to Rs. 5,000 per kg. There are 600 end-consumers in about 60 countries. But the total quantum of export is Rs. 14 crores only.

Now, I would suggest to the Minister, that instead of making statements which are controversial and erroneous, he should consider appointing a High-power Committee. There was one such Committee during the mid-forties It was called Justice Reuben Committee. I was an Assessor of that Committee. The time has come for you to appoint such a High-powered Committee, because, it will open your eyes, to the sort of distortion of the Government policy in the matter of actual implementation by MMTC-MITCO.

Your policy was to help the weaker sections. Who are the weaker sections? There are 3 lakh home-splitters, mostly, women. Do you know their wage? They earn Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 3 per week. Although by their skill they can split 1/10.000th of an inch with an ordinary long knife, this is what society has been paying them. For the last three years. the gravaman of my charge is that MIT CO being a public sector Corporation charged with the responsibility of helping the weaker sections of the trade sat over it, before their attention was drawn to the injustice done to them. They are small operators based on scale of cottage industries. There are 3,000 traders of whom many are with a capital of Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 5,000 and, of course, this includes a dozen with a capital of Rs. 2 to 4 crores. Out of 3,000, the small men numbering 1200 are gone. This is in spite of the operation of the MITCO because of its distortion of Government policy. Out of Rs. 4.4 crores worth of mica which they purchased, only .38 crores worth of mica was purchased from 258 firms at Rs. 25,000 per firm. Rs. 1 crore worth of mica was purchased from 204 firms at Rs. 1 lakh and Rs. 3 crores worth of mica was purchased from only 59 firms who are exporting more than Rs. 5 lakhs and more worth of mica. Those who were exporting Rs. 50 to 60 lakhs worth of mica annually are now exporting Rs. 1 crore worth of mica or more after three years of operation of the MMTC and the MITCO, and due to their distortion of Government policy in implementation. In this way, the rich continues to become richer although at a faster pace. From the smaller men, MITCO has been charging 17% being the share of their cost. But for the spot purchases which cover up a lot of malpractices and corruption, they charge only 2% and from mostly large exporters. So, although they give orders for Rs. 4 crores in the market when it comes to actual purchase after a number of rejections, they purchase only mica worth Rs. 40 lakhs or 50 lakhs or so—the figure which I have quoted. Out of 650 mines, 365 are now in operation. Unemployment is rampant. It is an enormity. Over the years, in two districts—Hazaribagh and Giridih—if you take mica only, that is the position. But, if you take Chhota Nagpur, it has become a disaster area. Taking shellac and mica together, if mica situation is bad, shellac is no better. The primary price of stick lac has crashed from Rs. 25 to 1.50 per k.g. How has this come about? Well, the report of a subcommittee is there before you. Whether the correlation is there is a large question which we can go into endlessly. But, my point is a very simple one. The exchequer has got Rs. 30 crores to 40 crores worth of mica. Mica industry employs 5 lakhs of persons at low wages. You got Rs. 21 crores worth of foreign exchange from shellac. But, how much of it has been ploughed back into the industries? Do you want to bring stability? Have you the resources? Have you estimated the amount of money which would go into it today?

[Shri Chapalendu Bhattacharyyia]

Sir, even before I have been pre-empted today I made this suggestion to the Commerce Ministry a number of times. Three years ago, I wrote that the line for the growth and stimulation of mica industry is diversification and to go into manufacture, to develop mica paper, to develop micronised mica powder, to develop micanite for insulation and electronic industries for internal and export markets this will give us 30 to 50 times greater unit realisation. You have not yet done that. We cannot go on any longer in a rut. Now the chickens are coming home to roost and sitting on our shoulders. We dare not face the people in our constituency with any reasonable explanation. In Ranchi, 400 handmade shellac factories are closed. The whole area has become an unemployment belt.

In mica the minimum export price for micasplitting was fixed too low leading to low wages of home splitters. In shellac it was fixed too high. The end product was the same—distress, unemployment and under-employment over the entire belt and low wages.

As regards diversification of engineering industry we have the expertise and surplus steel and unutilised idle capacity. We should go in for fabricating machinery for off-shore oil exploration. This is a must for the next two to three years for windfall export earnings. Price differential for steel favours it if we modify value added system.

Then a close liaison between MMTC, Hindustan Zinc, Hindustan Copper and Balco should be evolved. For coal a new vista is opening up. The internal price of coal is hardly 10 dollars per tonne whereas export price is 47 dollars f.o.b. as regards non-coking coal. It is 75 dollars for medium coke and 120 dollars per tone of high-grade coking coal. If we can export five to seven million tonnes of coal and medium coke, it will earn enough free foreign exchange for fully re-structuring our coal mining industry. That is a silver lining and, I suggest, that the Commerce Minister should kindly give it the priority it deserves and take it up, if necessary, in the economic sub-committee of the Cabinet and get the necessary drive and impetus to the scheme so that we have exportable surplus of five to seven million tonnes of coal annually.

We have a high deflationary zone within the general inflationary economy, namely, Chhota Nagpur. Mica, bidi, tussar and shellac will determine the economic health of the entire plateau. Which Ministry does it is your concern? The Trade Development Authority has done a good job particularly during this short span of three to four years in respect of handicrafts antiques and handlooms. The export of these items has gone up. But what happened to scheme of free trade zone at Andaman and Nicobar? That would be another Hong Kong and we might earn Rs. 500 to 700 crores in the course of next three years.

Then there have been complaints of mal practices in exhibitions organised by the Ministry of Commerce abroad. I would request the Minister to look into this. I understand even Ambassadors from certain countries have written to the Commerce Ministry regarding this. This should be looked into depth and stopped in the interests of India's image. I support the Grants for Commerce Ministry.

श्री कमल सिंह "मधुकर" (केसरिया) : सभापति महोदय

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member will continue his speech tomorrow.

18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 23, 1975/Vaisakha 3, 1897 (Saka).

GIPN—S1—4 LSS/75—2-7-75—978